Hafa Adai!

FAA awards CPA $270K to rebuild Saipan airport's fence. PAGE 2

DPS Boating Safety rescues man in capsized vessel. PAGE 5

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# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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IMPEACHMENT TRIAL UPDATE

# Closing arguments completed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The lawyers of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres completed the presentation of their defense and closing arguments in the continuation of the impeachment trial of Torres before the Senate yesterday, which also saw three minority bloc senators recuse themselves "temporarily" from participating in the proceedings.

Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), who is presiding the impeachment hearings, announced after the public comments portion that he will be notifying the Senate members and the public of the session to entertain the votes on the House of Representatives'

See CLOSING on Page 4

» Senators to decide Wednesday whether Torres stays or goes

» 3 minority bloc senators temporarily recused from yesterday's proceedings

NEW K9 UNIT FACILITY — KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

The CNMI Department of Public Safety, with other department leaders, cut the ribbon unveiling the department's new K9 Unit Facility in celebration of National Police Week.

## 'A travesty of justice'

Rep. Christina Sablan (D-Saipan) speaks during the impeachment trial of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in the Senate during the public comments portion yesterday. FERDIE DE LA TORRE

» Sablan says Pangelinan was an 'ambush' witness

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Christina Sablan (D-Saipan) said yesterday that what's happening in the Senate is not an impeachment trial at all, but a "travesty of justice."

Speaking during the public comments portion of Gov.

See JUSTICE on Page 4

**COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY**

**LEGEND:**
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

*Source: Office of the Governor*

## IN CRIMINAL CASE FILED BY OAG VS TORRES

## Defense: Disqualifying Torres' lawyers would result in hardship and prejudice

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In response to the Office of the Attorney General's recent notice to the Superior Court of a potential conflict of interest in Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' attorneys, Viola Alepuyo and Anthony Aguon, Torres' defense says disqualifying his lawyers would impose an "undue hardship and prejudice"

See DEFENSE on Page 4

## Six MHS students hurdle the prelims of 9th Circuit contest

Six Marianas High School students have hurdled the preliminary judging of the 2022 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest for high school students in the western United States and two Pacific island jurisdictions.

In the essay category, the winners are John Lawrence Apit, first place; Jenny Min, second place; and Samantha Gabrielle Flores, third place.

In the video category, the winners are Wendy Zha, first place; Amena Mahmud, second place; and Grace Ju, third place.

All six students are from

See SIX on Page 4

## INSIDE

**NATION**
A man opens fire during a lunch r eception at a Southern California church, killing one person.

Page 12

**OVERDRIVE**
With the redesigned 2023 Kia Sportage, the queues at the Kia stores are about to get longer.

Page 14

**LIFE & STYLE**
A Rhode Island dog whose story became the subject of a Netflix movie has been euthanized.

Page 15

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

# Local

# FAA awards CPA $270K to rebuild Saipan airport's fence

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has been awarded $270,000 as part of the more than $608 million that the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration will be awarding to build safer, more accessible airports serving a wide swath of the country.

In a news release last Thursday, FAA said the $270,000 awarded to CPA will be used to rebuild the perimeter fencing of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport and is part of the first round of 2022 Airport Improvement Program grants that will go to 441 airports in big cities, small towns, and everywhere in between across 46 states, American Samoa, and the CNMI. This funding is in addition to the $20 billion the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests in U.S. airports.

**» FAA invests millions to build safer, more accessible airports across US**

The Pago Pago International Airport in American Samoa will be awarded $18.8 million to rehabilitate a runway.

"In communities of all sizes, airports are vital to regional economies, sustaining jobs and getting people and goods where they need to go," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. "These Airport Improvement Program grants will help make airports better, safer, and more accessible, so they can better serve people in every community for decades to come."

"We're investing $608 million in airports across America so communities big and small can continue to safely and efficiently connect with the rest of the world," said FAA associate administrator of airports Shannetta Griffin.

General aviation airports will receive more than half of these first grants, with 272 grants in amounts ranging from $38,680 to more than $4.6 million. General aviation airports are vital to communities and the aviation industry. They are where pilots are trained, emergency medical services take off and land, and rural communities are connected to daily commerce.

A complete listing of grants is on the FAA website. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

NORTHERN MARIANAS
PACIFIC MINI GAMES
2022
Paddle away into the adventure of a lifetime
Va'a (Outrigger Canoeing) has not been on the Pacific Mini Games program since 2013 in Wallis and Futuna, where Tahiti won every event on offer. They did the same at the 2009 Pacific Mini Games in Cook Islands. Tahiti is the spiritual home of Va'a, the only true indigenous sport on the Pacific Games program. Since then, at the Pacific Games of 2015 and 2019, Cook Islands, New Caledonia and Papua New Guinea have all tasted gold medal success though Tahiti continues to win the vast majority of events.
VA'A
GAME IS ON! June 17 – 25, 2022
Participating Countries 11
Competition Venue 13th Fishermen Memorial Monument Beach
Competition Schedule 20 - 24 Jun 2022
Number of Athletes 182
PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES
*STOCK PHOTO ONLY
www.northernmarianas2022.com

## Tirona, Santos lead promotion of Tinian middle schoolers

The Board of Education Award for the Tinian Jr. High School 8th grade promotion was presented to valedictorian Edmar Timothy Mangubat Tirona by Board of Education chair Gregory Pat Borja, vice chair Antonio L. Borja, and secretary/treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio. School principal Lizabeth Hofschneider and vice principal Nikita Mendiola joins the parents. PSS

The Commissioner of Education Award for Tinian Jr. High School's 8th grade promotion went to class salutatorian Geremy Lim Santos. Santos, joined by his mother, received the award from Dr. Alfred B. Ada, principal Lizabeth Hofschneider and vice principal Nikita Mendiola. PSS

Class valedictorian Edmar Timothy Mangubat Tirona and salutatorian Geremy Lim Santos led 37 other middle schoolers of the Tinian Jr. High School who were promoted last Friday morning in a ceremony at the school's cafeteria.

The ceremony also recognized the Top Ten awardees: Tirona, Santos, Dylan Calibao Subia, Isa Mina Rodriguez Dosalua, Ha'nai Darence Dela Cruz Palacios, Angelica Joy Sosa Reyes, Adriel Roy Fabreag Lenteja, Dawn Princess Borja Flores, Brandon Jay Cruz Cepeda, and Jasper Manibusan Borja Jr.

**EDMAR TIMOTHY MANGUBAT TIRONA**
Valedictorian

**GEREMY LIM SANTOS**
Salutatorian

There were also subject awards presented to the students who have obtained the highest average in specific subject areas. For language arts the award went to Tirona. For science and math, the awards were presented to three recipients, Santos, Subia, and Tirona. The social studies awards were presented to Subia and Tirona.

In attendance at the ceremony were parents, school faculty and staff, and Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada, Board of Education vice chair Antonio L. Borja from Tinian, Board of Education chair Gregory Pat Borja, and secretary/treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio, both from Saipan. ***(Leigh Gases)***

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Join the movement for readers and writers

The Marianas Writers Movement celebrates the creation of its website, availability of its monthly newsletter, and opening of its forums to all readers and writers in the CNMI.

The website, https://marianaswritersmovement.org, was made possible by the support of the Northern Marianas Humanities Council. The website offers book reviews, articles about writing and writers, student work, and fun stuff including writing prompts, literary quotes, genre bingo cards, and vocabulary words.

MWM supports literacy and invites everyone to visit our website, sign up for our newsletter, and start the conversation on our forums. ***(PR)***

### 5.6-magnitude quake near Guam on Sunday

An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.6 occurred about 180 miles southwest of Guam at 9:10pm on Sunday, May 15, 2022. Based on all available data, there is no tsunami threat to Guam, Rota, Tinian, or Saipan from this earthquake. Some areas may have experienced shaking. No action is required. ***(PR)***

# Saipan bioarchaeologist joins Monuments Men officers class

LEIGH GASES

U.S. Air Force Capt. Kimberly Hofschneider, left, poses with now U.S. Army Reserve Capt. Christopher King after his commissioning ceremony at the Micro Beach last Thursday.

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Dr. Christopher King, a bioarchaeologist who lives and works on Saipan, was sworn in as a captain in the U.S Army Reserves last week under a newly revived program that pertains to cultural heritage and preservation on a national and international scale.

With the beach and the setting sun as a backdrop, King was sworn into the U.S. Army Reserves at Micro Beach, with U.S. Air Force Capt. Kimberly Hofschneider administering King's oath. This makes him a part of the first class of Monuments Men officers since World War II who have a special responsibility for the protection of cultural heritage that is threatened or impacted by disasters and to help U.S. and international communities preserve their identities and history.

"If there's a disaster, whether it's natural or man-made, like war, or conflict, or typhoon, and the nation requests help from the military, we can help them in terms of documenting what's been lost, help them in preservation of what's been damaged, and then cataloging artifacts, whether it's buildings, or paintings or sculptures or things of value," said King.

Outside of the Reserves, King works as a bioarchaeologist, which means an archaeologist with specialized skills in recovering and analyzing human remains from archaeological contexts. King also holds a master's level experience as a forensic anthropologist, working with modern cases that fall within the scope of law enforcement investigations. He also works closely with the Historic Preservation Office.

According to King, he has never been in the military before but has worked with them as a contractor and federal employee. He has had exposure to the military since 2005 and has done some work in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"I like…being part of a larger cause and this happened to be an opportunity to do that. …A fellow military member told me about the program, and then I just reached out and they said I should apply. And because it's a new program, they had to build all the procedures to bring people in so it's taken a couple of years," King said prior to his oath-taking.

To begin with being enlisted in the Reserves, King would have to go through basic training and later a six-week officer course. King said he would have to learn how to be a part of the military culture, which is "more than just physical fitness. …It's exciting. It forces me to train up and be more physically active."

King will be part of the greater Pacific region as that is where his background is and his headquarters will be in California.

## CNMI is getting $1.56M from US Labor for training and career services in CNMI

Sablan

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said over the weekend that the CNMI is receiving $1.56 million from the U.S. Department of Labor for training and career services.

Sablan said in his e-kilili newsletter that U.S. Labor's Employment and Training Administration announced Friday that the grant award will be distributed to the following: $453,848 for youths, $429,597 for adults, and $679,289 for dislocated workers.

Sablan said this support includes counseling, work search assistance, and development of individual employment plans.

He said the youth funds rolled out on April 1, 2022.

Sablan said adult and dislocated worker funds will be available in two separate appropriations: base funds on July 1, 2022, and advance funds on Oct. 1, 2022.

The delegate said the $1.5 million award comes from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
FAMILY & YOUTH ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM
Kagman Community Center, P.O. Box 51000 C.K, Saipan, MP 96950

VOUCHER ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOL – AGED CHILDREN

**PURPOSE:** To address disaster related needs and service delivery in the form of voucher allowance for eligible school-aged children who were directly displaced by Typhoon Mangkhut or Super Typhoon Yutu.

**Funding for the CSBG- DS Voucher Program will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis for:**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Saipan | – | 100 Families |
| Tinian | – | 40 Families |
| Rota | – | 40 Families |

**If there is remaining balance after 180 families, additional eligible families may qualify.*

**Eligible items:**

- Hygienical Supplies
- School Supplies
- Household Cleaning Supplies
- Cooking & Kitchen Supplies (food preparation)
- Clothing & Footwear
- Beddings

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- Must meet income eligibility requirements.
- Must provide documented proof of financial hardships due to Typhoon
- Manghkut or Super Typhoon Yutu.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen or an Eligible Alien.
- Was residing in the CNMI during Typhoon
- Manghkut or Super Typhoon Yutu.
- Currently living in FEMA tent, with neighbors, family members or friends as result of the disaster.
- Currently living in the CNMI.
- Child(ren) are enrolled in School Year 2021-2022.

**Application period will remain open from May 18th to August 31st, 2022, or as soon as the funds are depleted, whichever comes first.**

**Application package can be picked up & submitted at the following sites:**

**SAIPAN:**
Kagman Community Center: 237-1017 / 1018
DYS Administration Office: 237-1000/ 1001/ 1002
Tanapag Youth Center: 664-2599

**TINIAN:**
DYS Office: 433-9272

**ROTA:**
DYS Office: 532-9333

**DOWNLOAD APPLICATION AT:** www.dys.gov.mp www.dcca.gov.mp

**For Additional Inquiries, Please Call Or Email:**

**SAIPAN:**
Jennifer Tanaka: 237-1017, via email at jtanaka@dys.gov.mp
Nina Nekaifes: 664-2599, via email at nnekaifes@dys.gov.mp

**TINIAN:**
August Famaw: 433-9272, via email at afamaw@dys.gov.mp
Cindy Alo: 433-9272, via email at calo@dys.gov.mp

**ROTA:**
Quindy Maratita: 532-9393, via email at qmmaratita@dys.gov.mp
Mildred Sikebert: 532-9393, via email at mwsikebert@dys.gov.mp

**INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED**

*This program is made possible by the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Disaster Relief Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-20) Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services*

Catch up with Immunizations

- Routine Immunization helps protect against 14 diseases
- Find out if your child is up to date
- Schedule an appointment to catch up with Immunizations

Call the CHCC Immunization Program at
(670) 236-8745 (Saipan)
(670) 433-9233 (Tinian)
(670) 532-9461 (Rota)

This project was supported by Grant 6 NH23IP-922587-03-01 CFDA93.268 from CDC and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC). The contents above are solely the responsibility of CHCC and necessarily represent the official views of CDC or HHS.

WWW.CHCC.HEALTH @CNMIPOPHEALTH @CHCCMICAH

## DEFENSE

*From Page 1*

on the governor.

According to the opposition filed by one of Torres' attorneys, Matthew Holley, he argues that Commonwealth law specifically does not allow for the disqualification of one's counsel if it would cause undue hardship and prejudice.

"Pursuant to Commonwealth law, disqualification sought by a non-client litigant will not be granted if doing so will impose an undue hardship on the attorney's client. Disqualification would cause undue hardship and prejudice to the defense of this criminal prosecution brought by his attorneys," Holley stated.

Holley explains that disqualifying Alepuyo and Aguon would deprive Torres of his Sixth Amendment right to choose his own counsel. In this case, Torres has to exercise this constitutional right to a counsel of his choice as he is being prosecuted by his own legal counsel, the OAG.

However, because the motion to disqualify does not comply with the American Bar Association Model Rules of Professional Conduct, the CNMI rules of criminal procedure, Holley further argues that the motion should be dismissed in its entirety.

"Our Supreme Court has repeatedly held that prosecuting attorneys are 'servants of the law... [who] must serve truth and justice first and foremost.' The OAG's effort to deprive Gov. Torres of his Sixth Amendment rights without complying with the MRPC, the Rules of Criminal Procedure, and the Rules of Practice demonstrates that the OAG is not applying this principle in the prosecution of its client. The abandonment of this guiding principle, standing alone, warrants dismissing or denying the 'motion.'" Holley said.

In addition to the OAG's alleged non-compliance with the MRPC, CNMI rules of procedure, and the CNMI rules of practice, the deficiencies associated with the motion also warrants dismissal, he said.

"The procedural and substantive deficiencies associated with the 'motion' to disqualify justifies dismissing or denying the OAG's effort to deprive its client of his Sixth Amendment rights," he said.

The OAG filed its criminal case against Torres on April 8. All judges of the Superior Court have recused themselves from the matter and by order dated April 12, 2022, the Supreme Court appointed Judge Tolentino of Guam as judge pro tem to preside.

At the April 28 arraignment, Alepuyo and Aguon informed the court and the OAG that they planned on filing a motion to disqualify the OAG based on conflict of interests as the OAG was and still is the governor's legal counsel. They also requested the court to set a briefing schedule and date for an evidentiary hearing.

Between the April 13, filing of the Entry of Appearance and May 2, 2022, the OAG allegedly did not raise or mention any issue relating to a potential conflict of interest of Alepuyo and Aguon.

However, on the morning of May 2, the due date for Gov. Torres' disqualification motion, the OAG filed a Notice of Potential Conflict of Interest, alleging a violation of concurrent conflict of interest in violation of MRPC Rule 1.7.

In an order dated May 3, the vourt announced that it regards the Commonwealth's notice as a motion.

## JUSTICE

*From Page 1*

Ralph DLG Torres' impeachment trial, Sablan, who is running for governor in the November 2022 election, said that Torres was supposed to be on trial in the Senate as he was charged by the House of Representatives with six Articles of Impeachment for theft, corruption, and neglect of duty.

She also noted that Ross Garber, a member of Torres' legal team, was not sworn in as a witness nor was he on the witness list, but he appears to have testified regarding the factual basis of Article 6 of the Articles of Impeachment, yet offered no citation whatsoever or any CNMI case law to support his assertions that Sablan said were all drawn from federal contexts regarding the separation of powers.

Sablan said the Senate has a solemn obligation to deliver due process in a fair trial.

She said there were no prosecutors because the Senate leadership rejected the team of House prosecutors that House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) had appointed.

The lawmaker said there was no evidence because the Senate leadership rejected the entire House impeachment record—all 8,000 pages and hours of video-recorded witness testimonies.

She said the Senate heard only the governor's side through his defense attorneys.

Sablan agreed with Torres' counsels' statement that it is the House's burden to prove the impeachment charges.

However, she said, the House's hands were "unjustly tied" by Senate rules that were drafted by the governor's counsel, in collusion with Torres' allies in the Senate.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

## SIX

*From Page 1*

Marianas High School. Their wins make them finalists in the contest and will advance to the final round of competition.

In Guam, the essay winners are: first place, Jin Chung of St. John's School in Tumon; second place, Reagan Budasi of the Academy of Our Lady of Guam in Hagåtña; and third place, Arianne Canlas, also of the Academy of Our Lady of Guam.

The video winners are: first place, the team of Josh Santiago, Rachel Cabales and Kedrick Diego of George Washington High School in Mangilao; second place, the team of Alexander Gayle and Jin Chung of St. John's School in Tumon; and third place, Kelvin Lee, also of St. John's School. They also received some cash prizes because contests sponsored by some judicial districts in the Ninth Circuit offered cash prizes and/or certificates for the winners.

In all, the circuit received 800 essays and 112 videos this year.

This year's contest focused on students' free speech rights. The contest challenged students to address "What are students' free speech rights—and responsibilities—on and off campus?" Participants were asked to consider what rights the First Amendment provides to students engaging in free speech, both inside and outside of school.

The contest was open to high school students in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington state, the U.S. territory of Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

In all, 42 essays and 29 videos out of the 912 total entries received were selected to advance to the next round for consideration by judges, court staff and members of the bar. The Ninth Circuit Public Information and Community Outreach Committee will determine the final winners at the circuit level. PICO is responsible for organizing and sponsoring the contest together with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the 15 federal judicial districts that comprise the circuit.

First-place winners at the circuit level will be invited to attend the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference in Big Sky, Montana, and a total of $11,400 in cash prizes will be awarded to the top three essay and video winners. Circuit-level winners will receive $3,000 for first place, $1,700 for second place, and $1,000 for third place along with a commemorative prize. If the winners of the video portion of the competition are part of a team, then they will split the total cash prize.

Winners will be announced on the civics contest website https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/civicscontest/ in June. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

## CLOSING

*From Page 1*

Articles of Impeachment.

Hofschneider issued yesterday afternoon a memo calling for a special session for tomorrow, Wednesday, at 1:30pm, in which senators are expected to vote whether or not to convict Torres of the Articles of Impeachment.

Sens. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota), Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan), and Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota) informed Hofschneider yesterday that they are temporarily recusing themselves from the impeachment proceedings until such time the Superior Court hears and rules on a pending motions in a lawsuit requesting the court to issue a temporary restraining order to stop the Senate impeachment trial.

Manglona, Bruce Lee Jorgensen, and Carmen Patricia Deleon Guerrero are suing the Senate in Superior Court in a last-ditch attempt to temporarily halt the impeachment trial.

Manglona, DeLeon Guerrero, and Santos later proceeded to the House chamber where they explained their action and situation to Reps. Christina Sablan (D-Saipan), Leila Staffler (D-Saipan), and Corina L. Magofna (D-Saipan).

With the three's recusal, plus the previous recusals of Sen. Vinnie Vinson Sablan (R-Saipan) and Sen. Justo Quitugua (R-Saipan), that effectively left just four senators proceeding with the trial: Hofschneider, Victor Hocog (R-Rota), Francisco Cruz (R-Tinian), and Karl King-Nabors (R-Tinian). Hofschneider ordered the continuation of the proceedings.

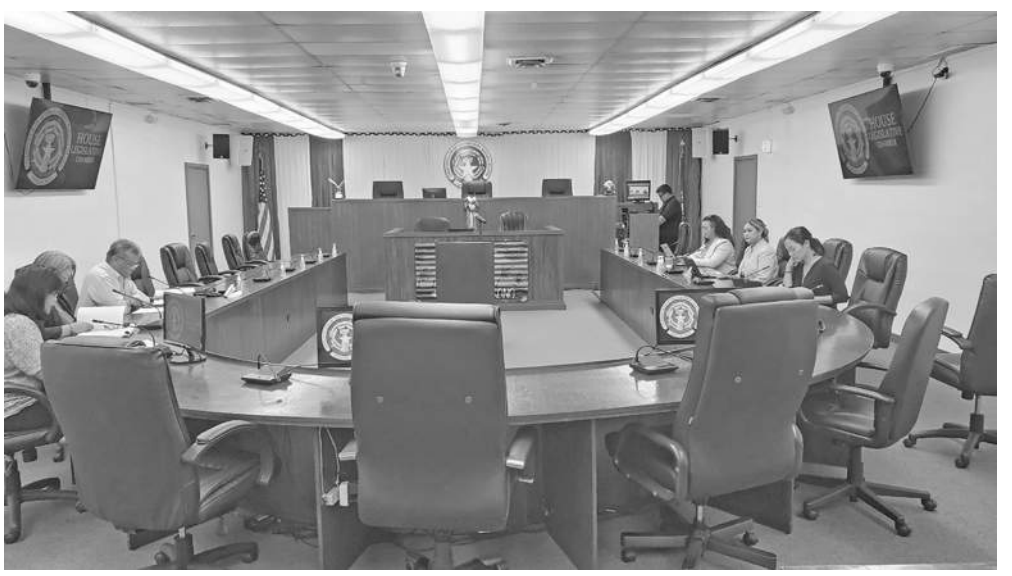
On count 6 of the Articles of Impeachment, Ross Garber, a Washington D.C.-based impeachment trial expert who is a member of Torres' legal team, appeared virtually and provided expert testimony that the House of Representatives Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee does not have the legal authority to command, through a subpoena, the governor or the head of state to attend a committee investigative hearing.

Garber said that non-compliance with subpoena is not an impeachable offense.

He said impeachment is only for "treason, commission of a felony, corruption, or neglect of duty."

The lawyer said there is no gubernatorial "duty" in the constitution, statute, or regulation that mandates compliance with subpoena.

Garber said that Torres' counsel wrote a detailed letter to the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee explaining the law on subpoena. He said the governor's counsel offered to negotiate and accommodate, and even asked the court to resolve the matter.



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Sens. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota), Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan), and Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota) explain their action and situation to Reps. Christina Sablan (D-Saipan), Leila Staffler (D-Saipan), and Corina L. Magofna (D-Saipan) at the House of Representatives chamber.

Garber said the subpoena violated the constitution (separation and balance of powers) and the statutes.

He said Torres responded reasonably to the subpoena.

On count 4 of the Articles of Impeachment, Joseph Lifoifoi, an administrative officer for the CNMI Honolulu Medical Referral Office, testified that he was with Torres in Hawaii when the governor purchased a laptop and Bluetooth headsets for the use of Medical Referral Office's employees.

Lifoifoi said the laptop was essential to their office for urgent matters during the pandemic. "We're able to access from home," he added.

Lifoifoi said it was he who asked for the laptop and electronic items for their office. He said they are still using those items until now.

In his closing argument, Anthony Aguon, who is the lead counsel for Torres' legal team, said that being convicted of a crime is a life-altering experience and beyond redemption for anyone. "So it is in the best interest of our islands and our people that the Senate ensures that any person accused of a crime is not wrongfully convicted," Aguon added.

Because a person is innocent until proven guilty, the burden of proof for this impeachment hearing lies solely on the House as prosecutor, he said, and the House has the heavy burden to prove with clear and convincing evidence what they alleged in the Articles of Impeachment.

"…This is something the House has not done and cannot do," Aguon said. He said the House failed to properly make an appearance before the Senate and it failed to submit any evidence to support any of the Articles of Impeachment. "In fact, the only evidence that is properly before you all go against the Articles," he said.

Aguon said the House failed to comply with the House rules when it investigated and impeached Torres.

He said the House failed to comply with the Ethics laws, because Rep. Christina Sablan (D-Saipan) was allowed to participate and vote on the impeachment of Torres, her biggest opponent in the November election, despite her personal and financial conflicts of interest.

Torres is seeking re-election under the Republican Party, while Sablan is Democratic Party's candidate for governor.

Aguon said the House failed to comply with the CNMI Constitution because the Articles of Impeachment contains six unconstitutional penalties.

He said the House failed to comply with the Senate rules simply because it did not agree with them.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

# DPS Boating Safety rescues man in capsized vessel

A man who was found clinging on top of his capsized vessel near the waters off CK Reef was rescued last Saturday, May 14, 2022, and his vessel was towed to the Smiling Cove Marina. The man told police responders that he was okay and did not need medical attention.

According to a Department of Public Safety news release yesterday, the man, who was not identified in the news release, attributed the incident to the vessel being weighed down by his fishing gear and equipment. He stated that the cargo was too heavy that it pushed the back side of the vessel down, making it possible for water to enter the boat.

The news release stated that DPS dispatch received a report about a capsized vessel just south of the last military prepositioned ships, near the CK Reef at around 1:24pm of May 14, 2022. DPS Boating Safety Section was notified and officers onboard the DPS Zodiac 1 rescue boat departed from the Smiling Cove Marina around 1:41pm and headed toward the capsized vessel. At around 1:57pm, Zodiac 1 arrived at the capsized vessel and noticed that the operator was on top of the capsized vessel, the operator was brought on board the Zodiac 1 and stated that he was okay and did not need medical attention. Zodiac 1 was able to tow the overturned vessel towards the Smiling Cove Marina. At about 4:10 p.m., Zodiac 1 arrived at the Smiling Cove Marina with the capsized vessel.

According to the capsized vessel's operator, they launched their vessel at 10:30am at Fishing Base Marina and headed toward the prepositioned ships. He stated they started fishing from east to west near that area. The operator mentioned that the waves were coming from where the back of his vessel was facing and water began to fill the vessel. He tried to save his vessel but was unsuccessful. As more waves came, water started to fill the vessel quickly. He ran to the front of the vessel, while the vessel was slowly flipping.

The DPS report did not state who made the call to the police.

DPS encourages boaters to notify friends and/or family members "about your fishing route or what area you plan to be fishing and what time you expect to return. If you are having troubles out in the water call into Channel 16 on your VHF radio when you need help, or if you would like to report a distressed vessel. If you would like to report a crime or an emergency call 911 anytime." ***(Saipan Tribune)***

# Muña is Lions Club's second Fitbeat challenger

**By LEIGH GASES**
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

The second challenger for the second week of the Fitbeat Challenge of the Saipan Fitbeat Lions Club was Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther L. Muña, who took on the challenge by participating in the club's Zumba class last Thursday at the Garapan Round House.

Muña participated in the 30-minute Zumba session and also pledged to make a donation to a charity of her choice, the Autism Society of the CNMI.

When asked what made her take on the challenge, Muña said, "There's always different ways to work out. …I know that there's a lot of folks here that are doing everything possible to get fit, including the governor."

Irene Tantiado Holl, president of the Saipan Fitbeat Lions Club, said the Fitbeat challenger is anyone in the community whom the group thinks will have a great impact if they participate in a Zumba or Core session. This challenge will be held throughout the whole month of May and this week's challenger has yet to be determined. If they choose not to participate in the Zumba or Core classes, they will have to make a donation to the Saipan Fitbeat Lions Club or any charity of their choice.

Muña said she chose to do both—exercise and make a donation to the Autism Society of the CNMI "because we're seeing the parents really go through and struggle with it, and most especially the kids, so [we do] whatever we can do to help."

Initially, she was hesitant about taking up the challenge but then thought that "we have to walk the talk, right? We have to do what we're telling everybody to do. …And what COVID has taught us is that… there is a need to get healthy, so that even with infectious diseases, with the right treatment, we can combat it. So it's good to do our part. We are honored to be asked."

Muña added that the experience and being with some CHCC staff doing Zumba "was so cool. …They're my family. I'm glad that they're taking some wellness time. It is necessary to take some time off for yourself. …So it's always good.

The free Core class is from 5:30pm to 6:30pm and the free Zumba class is from 6:30pm to 7:30pm, all at the Garapan Central Park, Round House and the Fitbeat Lions Club encourages everyone to join in the workouts and fun.

Last week, the first challenger of the Fitbeat challenge was Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres, who joined in on the Zumba dancing for the first time.

# Boating Safety responds to distressed vessel

On Sunday, May 15, 2022, at around 2:42pm, DPS Boating Safety Section received a call reporting a distress vessel west off Micro beach.

At around 2:59pm, Zodiac 3 departed from the Smiling Cove Marina and headed toward the distressed vessel. At 4:03pm, Zodiac 3 arrived at the vessel, established tow, and headed back toward Smiling Cove. All occupants of the vessel stated they were okay and did not need medical attention. At around 5:30pm, Zodiac 3 arrived at Smiling Cove with the distress vessel. The vessel was boarded upon rescue and received a no-violation citation.

According to the crew of the vessel they launched their vessel at fishing base around 8pm and headed to the west of Saipan and started to fish going from the north down toward the south. Around 2:40pm, they were trolling, heading south just west of Micro Beach when the engine died. The operator stated that he does not know why the engine died. He then called DPS Boating Safety for police assistance. ***(PR)***

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE DISSOLUTION

Please take notice that Mark Marienelle LLC intends to file articles of dissolution with the CNMI Registrar of Corporations anytime after this notice is made.

Anyone with a claim against the corporation is requested to submit it in accordance with the following:

1. The claim shall be made in writing and shall state the name of the claimant, the amount of the claim, the factual basis for the claim, and the name, mailing address, email address, and telephone number of the person who may be contacted by the corporation with respect to the claim.
2. The claim may be sent to: P.O. Box 502144, Saipan MP 96950 or call 670-287-3855
3. A claim against the corporation will be barred unless a processing to enforce the claim is commenced within five years after the publication of the notice.

Mark Marienelle, LLC
P.O. Box 502144, Saipan MP 96950

# GOP issues statements on Senate impeachment hearing

» The Republican Party of the CNMI issued the following statements Friday and yesterday relative to the Senate Hearing on the Articles of Impeachment.

### 'There was no theft, special treatment, cover-up, nor double-billing'

"Based on the sworn testimony of Commonwealth Utilities Corp. chief Gary Camacho, there was no theft. Theft is when you receive services and you do not pay for such services or when there is a clear attempt to avoid any record of consumption. In the case of Gov. Torres, there was no divert away from a meter nor evidence of meter tampering on or around his property.

"According to Camacho, Gov. Torres legitimately received a utility benefit at Koblerville and then at As Teo. There is no double billing. Further, it was clarified through questioning by the president of the Senate that the document furnished by the JGO showing a double-billing was not an official document of the CUC.

"The Senate hearing revealed that former governor Babauta had two accounts, yet the former governor was not prosecuted. It should be noted that JGO chair Celina Babauta was former governor Babauta's executive assistant when he had two accounts being paid concurrently. Gov. Torres never had utility benefits for two accounts at the same time. Gov. Torres' attorney proved that Gov. Torres received utility benefits for one residence at a time. It was further established that the JGO's allegations of theft was not initiated by the Office of the Attorney General.

Torres

"The CUC chief states emphatically that everything was paid but at erroneously billed. The consumed volume of water was identified, billed and paid at the correct rate.

"The bottom line is that Gov. Torres was wrongfully accused by the JGO. Gov. Torres did not commit theft of utility services. Gov. Torres did not receive utility benefits for two residences at the same time.

"Today's testimony and the supporting evidence reveals that the JGO led by Rep. Celina Babauta misled the public.

"Attorney Tony Aguon stated that the payment of utilities for governors and lieutenant governors is allowable by law. Gov. Torres never had any intent to defraud the government. Rather, Gov. Torres himself initiated a corrective action by calling CUC to assess the water usage and billing. Thereafter the correct amount was charged to the correct account and payments made to those accounts." ***(PR)***

### 'AG asked for same travel privileges as that of governor

"Based on the sworn testimony of the first witness, Mr. Epi Cabrera, who served the Torres Administration since 2015, provided sworn testimony that he was assigned to serve on the committee whose charge was to review the travel regulations on or around 2017.

"He states that there were several complaints by government officials concerning travel per diem and car rental. Premium travel was not of any concern by the committee or the attorney general.

"He further states that the attorney general himself has received a copy of the travel regulations, met with Mr. Cabrera, and provided input on changes to be made.

"Mr. Cabrera testified that the travel regulations committee recommended that both the governor and lieutenant governor should travel premium class especially over long distances because of the need for rest before the meetings.

"Mr. Cabrera stated that the AG himself reviewed the proposed travel regs and did not advise to change the premium class travel language.

"Attorney Tony Aguon stated that there was consensus by the travel committee and the attorney general had no concerns relative to the governor traveling premium class.

"The bottom line is that Attorney General Ed Manibusan knew of the travel regulations, the issues at hand, and had expressed no concerns verbally or in writing about the governor or lieutenant governor traveling premium class." ***(PR)***

### 'No law was broken in Deer Meat for Dinner campaign'

"Based on the sworn testimony of Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo, the Deer Meat for Dinner promotion delivered a return on investment that exceeded all expectations. She stated that the promotion served a public purpose. Integrating Mr. Rob Arrington who is a world-recognized online influencer would benefit the Commonwealth and is consistent with the authority's strategy of maintaining a strong online presence.

"The MVA managing director stated that inbound flights were suspended as a result of COVID so MVA decided to invest in and maintain a strong online presence. The MVA board of directors approved the Deer Meat for Dinner budget of $59,000. Total actual expenses did not exceed $50,000.

"Deer Meet for Dinner produced 20 videos. Total views for the videos exceeded 35 million views. Exposure value is approximately $35 per view. Given this, the reported ad exposure value is in excess of $1 billion. MVA managing director Iakopo compared how successful this promotional program was in comparison to other sponsored activities.

"Attorney Anthony H. Aguon summarized by stating that no laws were broken for the Deer Meat for Dinner promotional videos. He states that no specific law was cited in the impeachment article and that the promotional videos served a valid public purpose. Promoting the CNMI is a legitimate promotional segment.

"The bottom line is that no laws were broken in pursuing a social media promotional strategy using the Deer Meat for Dinner video series. Ironically, the CNMI Legislature approved and presented social media influencer Mr. Robert Arrington with a legislative resolution for the work he did to promote Saipan, Rota, Tinian and the Northern Islands.

'On one hand, to award a social media influencer for promoting the CNMI and then on the other hand turning around and impeaching a governor for the same promotional video series is hypocrisy and betrayal of public trust at its worst. It is clear that the Democrats and allied Independents have put their political power grab agenda before the people and common sense. Their legal argument fails on its face again." ***(PR)***

### 'Torres made every attempt to meet; JGO rejected invitation'

"Attorney Ross Garber, a member of Gov. Torres' legal team, provided expert testimony that a legislative committee does not have the legal authority to command the head of state to attend a committee investigative hearing.

"Attorney Garber cited rulings from federal courts across the country that supported his assertion that the JGO's subpoena violated the CNMI Constitution. More so, that the U.S. Department of Justice has stated on numerous occasions that a legislative body may not subpoena, or command, a chief executive or any of his senior advisers to appear before said body.

"Further, it was noted for the record and widely publicized that Gov. Torres has made every reasonable attempt to meet with the members of the CNMI House of Representative at a mutually acceptable time and location.

"Again, Gov. Torres stated that he was more than willing to discuss the issues and respond to questions outside of the unlawful issuance of a legislative command. The JGO has yet to accept an invitation by Gov. Torres to meet on any of the impeachment issues.

"Notwithstanding Gov. Torres' principled position to preserve the separation of powers, he went ahead and produced as well as published a question-and-answer video on the same issues.

"The bottom line is this: Gov. Torres' desire to preserve the doctrine of separation of powers is not an impeachable offense. His good faith invitation to meet outside of the committee's published demand was either rejected or unanswered on more than one occasion by the Democrat leadership." ***(PR)***

### 'Torres' purchases of items for CNMI Medical Referral Office are still being used today'

"Attorney Anthony H. Aguon gave succinct testimony supported by facts that defeats the House of Representatives allegations of any wrongdoing when the governor purchased certain items and issued them to the CNMI Medical Referral Office for its employees' use.

"The allegations put forth by the House of Representatives were refuted by an official currently working with the Medical Referral Office in Hawaii.

"Further, the House of Representatives failed to identify which laws, if any, were broken in these allegations.

"Last, the House failed to provide clear and convincing evidence or public testimony that supports their claim of any wrongdoing.

"To the contrary, the laptops and Bluetooth headsets have been issued to the CNMI Medical Referral Office for its benefit. It was established that these items are still being used by the drivers of the CNMI Medical Referral Office in Hawaii.

"Given these findings, a 'no' vote is the only logical action by the CNMI Senate." ***(PR)***


**Marianas Health Services, Inc.**

**Job Opening:** Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse

**Job Summary:** Under supervision of a registered nurse, provides quality care to patients and performs technical skilled care in patient's home in compliance with nursing standards, federal, state, local government regulations and company clinical policies.

**Education:** Licensed Practical Nurse or Licensed Vocational Nurse in State of Practice. Graduate of an accredited state-approved practical or vocational nursing program.
Work Experience: At least one year of nursing experience; community/home health experience preferred.

**To Apply:** This job opportunity is for a full-time position. Interested applicants may submit their applications, resume, and/or other credentials at the Marianas Health Services Building, Ghiyeghi Street, San Jose, Saipan, CNMI Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Applications may be sent via email to: info@marianashealth.com. Only U.S. qualified workers will be considered.

**Marianas Health Services is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer.**

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS (2):**
Elementary School Teacher – Prepare, teach, and facilitate lessons and monitor and manage students in classroom in accordance to the set objectives of the school curriculum. Give assignments, grade, and provide feedback on student work. Complete general administrative work and participate in extracurricular activities. Education: Bachelor's in Primary or Secondary Education; Experience: 24 Months as an Elementary, Middle, or Secondary School Teacher. Send Resume to: Green Meadow School, Attn: Milagros Songcuan, P.O. Box 502862, MP 96950.

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Accountant – DW2022-01**
**Saipan, CNMI**

**Accountant, D & W SAIPAN, INC., Saipan, CNMI**

**Job Duties:**
Overall in-charge on the accounting and administrative operation of the company. Report to the management regarding the finances of the company. Prepare and analyze accounting records, financial statements, or other financial report to assess accuracy, completeness and in conformity to reporting and procedural US GAAP standards. Analyze business operations, trends, cost, revenue, financial commitments, and obligation to project future revenues and expenses. Compute the taxes owed and prepare tax returns such as CNMI business gross revenue tax, CNMI Quarterly Withholding, Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return (941-SS) and Corporate Income Tax Return (1120-CM), ensuring compliance with payment, reporting or other requirements.

**Minimum Requirements:**
Bachelor's degree in Business, Accounting, Finance, or related field, foreign educational equivalent accepted, plus 12 months experience in general accounting functions. Able to supervise accounting and administrative staff.

**Salary:** $15.29 per hour

**Workplace:** CHALAN PALE ARNOLD MIDDLE ROAD, HIGHWAY EXPRESS BUILDING Saipan, CNMI

To apply: Please send your resume to D & W Saipan, Inc., PO BOX 500440, Saipan, MP 96950 or e-mail to dwsaipan@pticom.com Job Number – DW2022-01

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671-646-6941
(Ext 105)

# CHCC and CNMI Blue Ribbon Initiative lead ninth meeting

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Community Guidance Center and the CNMI Blue Ribbon Initiative led their ninth consortium trainings and meetings on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

The series of workshops were conducted on Rota on April 18 and 19, and on Tinian on April 21 and 22. The participants walked through the Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment process, also known as SBIRT, to increase early intervention of drug and alcohol use. The training was followed by a workshop discussing the social determinants of health in the CNMI. A total of 52 Rota and 64 Tinian residents participated in each training respectively.

The Blue Ribbon Initiative consortium capped off the series on Saipan on April 26 and 27, with the general consortium meeting. A total of 70 individuals attended on the first day, and 63 individuals attended on the second day. The consortium members continued to develop planning and sustainability within their respective committees.

Stakeholders from Tinian, along with Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and Community Guidance Center staff, take time for a group photo with training facilitator Dr. Jen Maratita after completing training on Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment. CHCC

The goal of the consortium is to use an innovative, community-based approach to support the prevention, treatment, and recovery from substance use disorders. The initiative will continue to strengthen the capacity of the multi-sector consortium of private and governmental entities. The collective impact model has been proven to work in communities with limited health care and social support services.

The next general consortium meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 2022. To attend or be a part of the consortium, call the Community Guidance Center at (670) 323-6560.

The training and meetings were made possible through funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. ***(PR)***

# Former Australian envoy says Australia's lost Pacific trust

**CANBERRA, Australia** (AP)—A former Australian envoy to the Solomons Islands has accused Australia's government of losing the trust of South Pacific island countries and of ushering in greater Chinese influence.

Retired career diplomat Trevor Sofield told a security summit on Monday he found it "inconceivable" that the Solomons government did not trust Australia enough to consult when a bilateral security pact with Beijing was first considered.

"That would not have happened a few years ago," said Sofield, who was Australian high commissioner to the Solomons from 1982 to 1985.

The pact, which was concluded last month, has been a major issue ahead of Australian elections on Saturday.

Australia and its allies including the United States fear the pact will result in a Chinese naval presence less than 2,000 kilometers (1,200 miles) from the northeast Australian coast.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison argues that he is better able than opposition leader Anthony Albanese to take on the security threats posed by China and to strengthen relations with Washington, Australia's most important defense partner.

Sofield, who was manhandled by security staff when he attempted to speak to Morrison at a campaign event last week, said Australia had "lost its way" in the Pacific as China scaled up its influence in the region.

"We had a vision," he said. "It was underpinned by the fact that if we could assist these governments reach economic security through trade and aid then they would certainly be able to manage their own affairs."

Sofield

"But we've lost that vision and we've lost that trust that we developed over time," Sofield added.

Albanese's center-left Labor Party has condemned the Sino-Solomons pact as Australia's worst foreign policy failure in the Pacific since World War II.

Morrison argues the blame lies with China for interfering in the Pacific.

Morrison boasts that a partnership with the United States and Britain announced in September that will supply Australia with a fleet of submarines powered by U.S. nuclear technology was as major achievement to boost Australia's security.

The so-called AUKUS agreement has become a political battleground since an Australian newspaper reported on Saturday that the United States had set bipartisan support as a prerequisite for any agreement going ahead.

Morrison on Monday defended his failure to brief Labor earlier on the agreement and suggested the party's deputy leader Rickard Marles might have leaked the nascent deal to the Chinese.

National security is traditionally seen as a strength of Morrison's conservative coalition, which is seeking a rare fourth three-year term. Labor is ahead in most opinion polls, although the election result is expected to be close.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
**HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD**
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814
Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net
Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on *Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 8am* on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Administration Building, Governor's Conference Room on Capitol Hill.

## AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Determination of Quorum
III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (04/13/2022)
V. Public Comments
VI. Chairperson's Report
  A. Information on Foreign Practitioners Treating Athletes During the Mini Games
  B. Reassignment of HCPLB Legal Counsel
VII. Director's Report
  A. Trip Report - FSMB Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
  B. Inquiry Regarding Temporary Psychology License to Provide Service
  C. Update on Regulations for Addiction Professional
  D. Association of Marriage and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB) Membership
  E. Update on the Hearing Confirmation of Ted Parker and Dr. Tiffany Willis
VIII. Investigator's Report
IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
  A. Governor's Office
  B. Legislature
X. Old Business
  A. Amending Physician Regulation/Application
XI. New Business
XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review
  A. New Application
  B. Renewal Application
XIII. Miscellaneous Business
XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
XV. Announcements
  A. Next Meeting Date
  B. Adjournment of Meeting

## COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES
## CUC-RAESP-22-024
### INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed Architectural & Engineering Services Proposal from qualified firms to update the 2016 CUC Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), which identified a long-range plan for the most cost-effective mix of energy resources, both supply-side and demand-side management (DSM) and included a review of commercially available base load and renewable energy alternatives. The updated Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) will include optimizing this power supply portfolio to minimize costs while maximizing sustainability and resiliency while including the lasted in renewable, DSM, and operating technologies.

*This project is funded by a grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for the project award from Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) and HUD.*

The RAESP package may be obtained via email between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $300.00 for one RFP package set. **To register for the RAESP, please contact Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Technician Senior via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.**

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Proposal; and One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Cost Proposal** must be submitted in a separately sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RAESP-22-024, Integrated Resource Plan"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 24, 2022.** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

All responses to this RAESP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proposer awarded a contract.

This RAESP does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on May 10, 2022** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC's Procurement Administrator, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Anne Crocket, CUC Power Division Chief Engineer via email address anne.crocket@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, Purchasing Technician, Senior via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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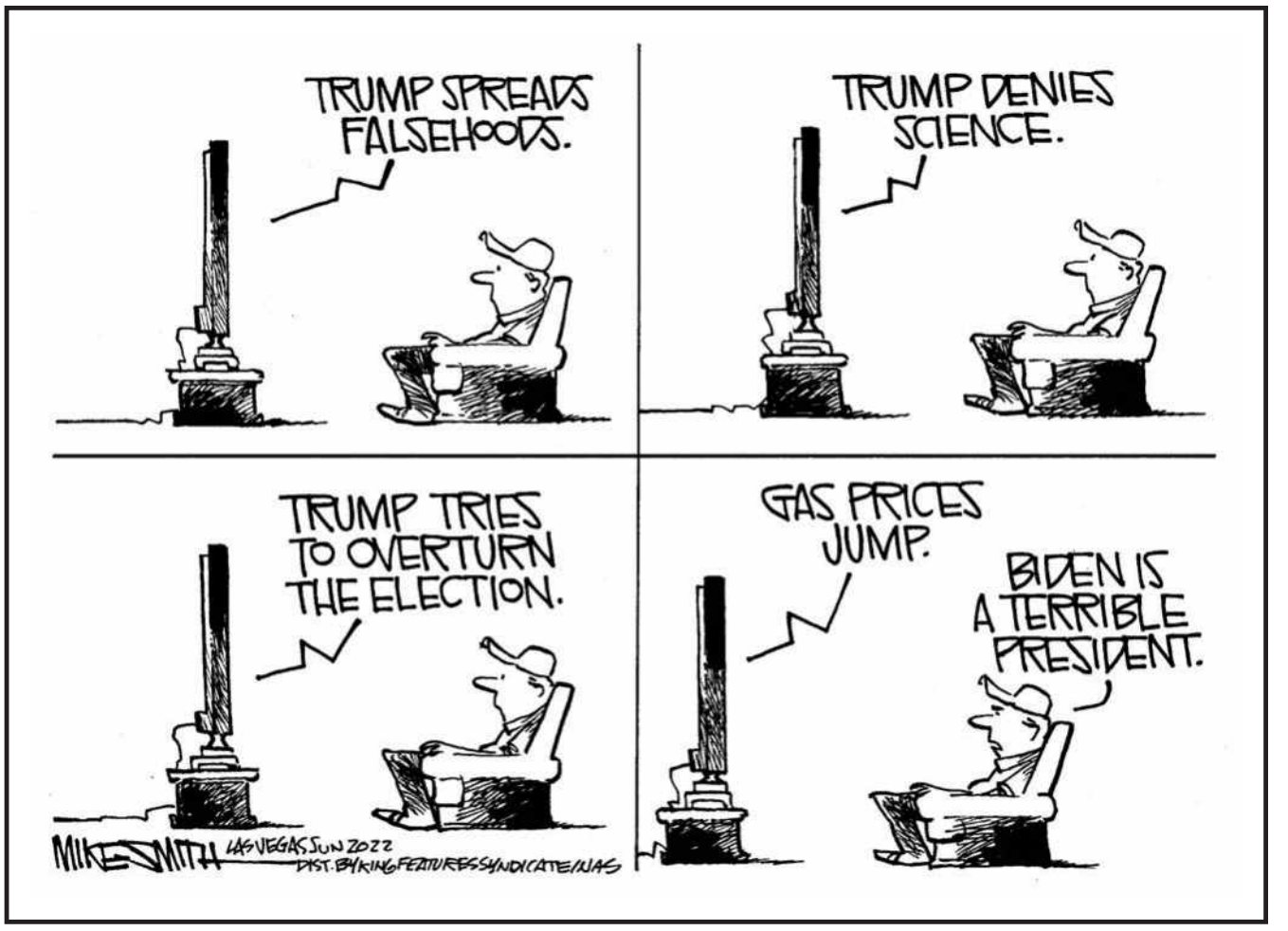
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## EDITORIAL

# The worshipping of guns, the cheapening of life

There is no shortage of tragedy on the streets of Baltimore: a revenge killing, a holdup gone bad, a suicide, a road rage that escalates. And then there are the roaring crescendos where you can't quite believe what has been orchestrated. Like the cacophony of shots fired midday Tuesday in the middle of an East Baltimore Street, killing one man and injuring three others. Sixty shell casings from the unknown assailant's assault rifle left lying on North Rose Street for a police forensic crew to examine, tag and photograph. One 25-year-old gone forever, killed in a hail of bullets one might expect in a war zone, like Ukraine. And that was not the day's only shooting. There were at least two others, none fatal, in other city neighborhoods.

What's the difference between Baltimore and Kyiv? In one, the killing is mostly purposeful; in the other, it's too often indiscriminate, which makes it all the more frightful. In right-wing media, the complaint is that Baltimore's leaders don't care about the killing and that it could all be stopped overnight with a tougher prosecutor seeking longer prison sentences or through some ill-defined greater community "support" for police officers. Days like Tuesday demonstrate why this is hokum. Nobody pulls out a weapon of mass destruction to indiscriminately spray bullets on a street after reflecting on mandatory minimum sentences and the pros and cons of getting caught. These are the actions of individuals with little self-awareness who don't give a damn—about their victims, about their families and probably about their own futures. And no amount of mere hand-wringing by elected officials (or posturing by the lock-them-all-up crowd) is going to change that.

What Baltimore needs—and on this point there seems to be fairly widespread agreement among stakeholders—is an all-of-the-above strategy that not only seeks to capture and prosecute violent offenders to protect the citizens of this city but addresses the root causes of violence and the easily-obtained tools available to commit such terrible acts. The to-do list is long and runs the gamut from assisting families stuck in poverty to counseling offenders upon their release from prison to getting guns off the street to creating job opportunities for young people and providing help for substance abusers. And then there is the no-small-matter of restoring public confidence in a police department with a history of discrimination, brutality and corruption so well documented that it's not only subject to a federal consent decree but chronicled weekly in the HBO series, "We Own This City."

Mayor Brandon Scott and Police Commissioner Michael Harrison seem to understand the complexities here. But it's difficult to measure progress, especially after days like Tuesday. The best that could be said is that the jury is out on their anti-gun-violence initiatives. Sometimes, Mr. Scott

***See LIFE on Next Page***

# One way to save democracy? Invest in young people running for office

**By VICTOR SHI**
Chicago Tribune

*Victor Shi is a sophomore at the University of California at Los Angeles. He co-hosts the* iGen Politics podcast.

Democracy finds itself not simply in a precarious state but on the verge of collapsing. Almost half the country now has laws in place that would effectively end safe access to abortion once the Supreme Court strikes down *Roe v. Wade*, as is expected. More than a dozen states are seeking to prohibit LGBTQ+ discussion in the classroom. And more than 250 bills from state legislatures across the country would place restrictions on voting access. As historian Ruth Ben-Ghiat, an expert on authoritarianism, said on the "iGen Politics" podcast I co-host, what is happening in Republican states is a real-time formation of "mini-autocracies."

While the reality is grim, now is not the time for voters to give in to despair. Instead, with six months remaining until the midterm elections, there is no time like the present for voters to begin volunteering and organizing.

And there is something else that Democrats can do: Support young people running for office up and down the ballot. Young people have been part of U.S. governance from the beginning: Rep. John Steele served in the first Congress while in his 20s. But young people are not necessarily well represented today in the halls of government.

Consider the average ages of elected officials at the federal, state and local levels. In 2020, both presidential candidates on the ballot were older than 70. The average age of 435 House members is about 58, and among our 100 senators, it is about 63. Additionally, well over half of governors are older than 60, and out of more than 1,400 U.S. mayors, the average age was 59 going into the 2018 midterm elections.

Contrast the average ages of elected officials with the American population. The national median age in 2018 was about 38, according to the Census Bureau, which suggests that half of the U.S. population is younger than 38.

This means that at virtually every level of government, elected officials largely don't reflect America when it comes to age.

Inadequate representation of young people in elected office is why I ran at age 17 as a delegate for then-Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden in 2020. While it wasn't easy or glamorous, I understood the need for young, diverse people to be involved in politics. I gathered petition signatures, organized and became the youngest delegate to represent Biden at the Democratic National Convention.

Fortunately, I am not the only one getting involved. More young people are energized to make a difference by running in federal, state and local races. Better yet, they are transforming campaign strategies—with their savvy at using tools like social media to reach voters—and debates around issues such as student loans and climate change.

Take someone like Joe Vogel. If he wins, the 25-year-old Vogel would become the youngest member of Maryland's House of Delegates. Similarly, Maxwell Frost, 25, of Florida, is running to replace U.S. Rep. Val Demings, who is making a bid for U.S. Senate. At minimum, Vogel and Frost are shifting the conversation around key topics while demonstrating that young people are prepared to hold elected office and lead.

Since 2017, more than 113,000 young people have expressed interest in running for office, according to Amanda Litman, who leads the organization Run for Something, which supports the candidacies of young people. This year alone, Litman said, that number already stands at more than 23,000. In only three years, Run for Something has endorsed more than 1,800 young people seeking elected office. As young people notice the mounting injustices and inequalities, as well as difficulties they and their peers face, more are stepping up. Young people have thought deeply about how to fix the issues they face and are ready to create lasting positive change.

To support young people, Democrats could host training sessions on how to effectively run for office and build a campaign. Additionally, they could partner with organizations like Run for Something to ensure they have the support and funding needed to recruit young people for office. Doing so would send a strong message to young people that we, too, belong in government.

Young people have been on the front lines of leading the fight on everything from racial justice to climate change. We have demonstrated that we are passionate about and capable of effecting change. And now, an impressive number are channeling their energy into running for office.

As another election approaches and the challenges facing our nation escalate, this is an opportune time to save democracy.

One step is supporting young people running for office. We are ready.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# 'Your future begins today'

*Editor's Note: The following is a message from Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios to the CNMI's public and private school graduates:*

To our graduating students across the CNMI, I offer my congratulations and commend your achievements and accomplishments that brought you to Graduation Day.

In the past four years, you were constantly tested in and out of the classroom. In addition to the challenges posed by everyday life as a student, you've endured the harshest weather our islands have ever seen with two super typhoons and you survived a global pandemic.

Our Commonwealth will be stronger because of the challenges you faced in your formative years. The men and women of my generation will one day sleep well in this world and the next, secure in the knowledge that the CNMI will be in your capable hands.

Your future begins today.

Our public and private schools did their best to provide you with the tools you'll need to succeed in the world. What you chose to do with your skills is up to you. When you receive your diploma, you can continue your education here and abroad, you can serve our nation's armed forces, you can enter our local workforce or leave in search of greener pastures.

For those who stay, know that your community needs you. We need your heart, we need your strength and we need your dedication to keep our Commonwealth great. Without you, the enduring story of our people and our culture will fade away. The future of our islands truly rests with you.

While many of you will depart for the mainland, take with you your Marianas pride. Never forget who you are, remember the islands you call home and cherish the culture that connects our people across continents and oceans. We pray you hold close your memories of our home and that you return to our shores to lead our people when your heart beckons.

Congratulations and God bless!

**By ARNOLD I. PALACIOS**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Arnold I. Palacios is the lieutenant governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.*

# Heed the warnings of this palm tree, a 200-year-old drought survivor

About 200 years ago, a palm tree was planted in downtown Los Angeles.

The fan palm was originally from the Southern California desert, a newcomer to the city like so many who would arrive later. And like so many who settled here, this young migrant prospered while adapting to the changing times.

It grew up as humble landscaping for a home on San Pedro Street in what's now Little Tokyo, while Los Angeles transitioned from Spanish to Mexican to American rule. Its quick growth and ample top earned it fame as the dusty pueblo turned into a boomtown.

By the time the Southern Pacific Railroad relocated the fan palm near the entrance of a new station on Alameda Street and 5th Street in 1888, the tree—then estimated to be between 65 and 76 years old—was a local celebrity.

This paper called the tree "among the oldest landmarks of Los Angeles." A year later, a Los Angeles Herald article proclaimed that it gave "the Eastern arrival as he proceeds up town a first impression of the wondrous things that are in store for him."

The fan palm moved one more time, in 1914, to its present location at the Figueroa Street entrance to Exposition Park near where Banc of California Stadium now stands. A slightly oxidized plaque at the tree's base calls it "a mute witness" to the megalopolis that Los Angeles became.

One of the oldest known living things in Los Angeles is silent no more. I visited the fan palm earlier this week to hear its wisdom about a subject it knows too well: drought.

GENARO MOLINA/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

A man runs along Figueroa Street near what may be one of Los Angeles's oldest palm trees, which stands at the front entrance to Exposition Park in Los Angeles on May 9, 2022.

Southern California is about to greet summer with some of the most drastic water restrictions ever enacted in the region. Millions of Angelenos in the Westside and the San Fernando Valley will be limited to watering plants once week starting June 1, with nearly everyone else in the city capped at twice a week. If things don't improve, there might be an outright ban come September.

We're being asked to cut down on showers, on washing cars, on anything water. Yet even as we're in the midst of one of the driest spells on record, things are already getting worse. The State Water Resources Control Board recently said that water use in California cities increased by 19% this March, despite pleas by officials for the public to preserve every last drop.

It's this reality that has Exposition Park undergoing an evaluation of its own landscaping "to fit more appropriately to our current climate and drought management strategies," said Vanessa Esparza. She's the interim general manager of the Office of Exposition Park Management, which maintains the historic 160-acre site.

There will undoubtedly be a serious conversation about whether to keep watering the massive lawn that stretches from the 200-year-old fan palm to the entrance of the Coliseum—a football field worth of green turf irrigated with rotary sprinklers thrice a week.

Esparza did vow that Exposition Park "will continue to preserve the historic palm tree as a reminder to the park's notable legacy."

But what legacy?

We have long celebrated the skinny Washingtonia filifera as an ambassador to our supposed paradise. It sure played the part well when I visited on a perfect morning. The sun was bright, the sky blue, the few clouds above white and happy. The fan palm, now about 85 feet tall, towered above everything, lining up with the iconic Coliseum cauldron. It looked shaggier than usual, because its fronds aren't being trimmed until the birds nesting in them move out.

Here was the Southern California dream. People post pictures of the fan palm on Instagram, much like the Southern Pacific hired photographers so out-of-towners could pose before it 120 years ago. It even has a Wikipedia page and Google map location, where it goes by the boring title "Historic Palm Tree of Los Angeles."

It's so much more than that. It's a survivor.

The fan palm is pockmarked with holes—some created by birds, others by humans climbing it to remove the fronds (Exposition Park now uses a cherry picker to reduce stress on the old-timer). Two nails about 6 feet above the ground are spiked into it. Ants ran up and down its trunk when I came in for a closer look.

Near the base is a big indentation that looks like a kidney. Halfway up is a huge scar that looks as if a giant took a bite out of it; Velasquez said there is no record of what caused that blemish.

Above that, the trunk tapers for a section before fattening again. Was it speaking to me about droughts past? "Skinny near the middle can definitely be a sign of water stress from many years ago," Velasquez said.

This fan palm has seen how the lack of water transforms a place. It survived the drought of 1864, which destroyed the cattle industry in Southern California, reduced the Californios to ruins and ushered in the beginnings of the modern city.

It looked on as L.A.'s captains of industry created the aqueduct that stole water from the Owens Valley to slake the thirst of a growing region that didn't have enough local water to be self-sustaining. It weathered the dry years of the 1930s and 1950s that spurred California's creation of the Central Valley and State Water projects, once-gushing man-made miracles reduced this year to virtual trickles.

Exposition Park's unassuming time capsule made it through the bad years of 1976 and 1977, a drought that prompted state officials to warn in a 238-page report that any subsequent wet periods in the future couldn't "lull us into a false sense of security." And it's still alive and healthy today, an era that scientists say is the worst Western drought in 1,200 years.

Heed my life well, the fan palm warned me, as the joggers who passed by paid little attention. The sprinklers that were on while I was there never quite hit the tree. Instead, the spray went over the concrete barriers that protect the fan palm from oncoming traffic and landed on asphalt.

A shallow puddle formed, then evaporated with the day.

**By GUSTAVO ARELLANO**
Los Angeles Times

## LIFE

*From Page 8*

seems too wrapped up in bureaucracy and process, such as when he talks about "pillars" and five-year timetables and frets about exactly how police district lines are drawn. But at least one observation made repeatedly by the mayor is worthy of reinforcement: He has called on parents and entire communities, not just government and nonprofits, to do more to end the killing. When a 16-year-old is charged with armed carjacking of a police detective, as took place last week, the solution isn't just with Safe Streets, it has to be at home. One might add our schools, our community centers and our houses of worship to the list. Something basic is missing when young people choose to settle minor differences with a gun.

There are days of hope, of course. When we see Baltimoreans banding together in candlelight vigils for the victims of violence or marching together to promote a ceasefire weekend or taking other measures to make this city a better, safer place, we know that all is not lost. And it's also fair to point out that Baltimore did not get to this grim place overnight, nor through the fault of most who live here. And yet here we are, at a time when a 52-year-old landscaper can be unceremoniously gunned down in Curtis Bay for allegedly cutting off a 17-year-old in traffic, as took place last month. We must work to change this lunacy, but first let us weep that we live in a world that must bear such senseless loss.

Baltimore Sun editorial writers offer opinions and analysis on news and issues relevant to readers. They operate separately from the newsroom.

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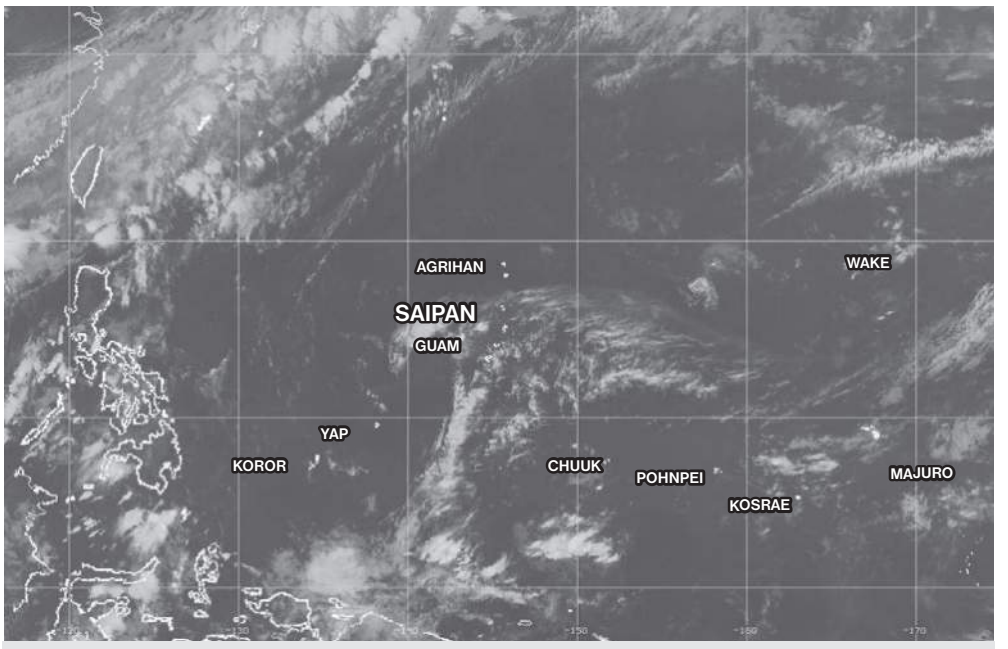
# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Partly cloudy, with Isolated showers. East northeast wind 8 to 11 mph. | Mostly sunny, with Isolated showers. East northeast wind 9 to 11 mph. | Mostly sunny. | Mostly sunny,. | Partly cloudy, |
| 88° 75° | 88° 75° | 88° 75° | 88° 75° | 88° 75° |

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE




**PICTURE TIME:9:24 AM, MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam Doppler weather radar shows widely scattered showers east of the Marianas, with scattered showers and a few thunderstorms west of the islands. The buoys reveal combined seas of 3 to 5 feet, composed mainly of trade-wind swell from just north of east.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

| MICRONESIA | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Partly Cloudy | 31 / 26 °F |
| Palau | Scattered Thunderstorms | 29 / 25 °F |
| Yap | Scattered Thunderstorms | 30 / 26 °F |
| Chuuk | Scattered Thunderstorms | 30 / 26 °F |
| Pohnpei | AM Thunderstorms | 30 / 25 °F |
| Kosrae | Scattered Thunderstorms | 29 / 26 °F |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | 28 / 26 °F |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 05:47 AM | 18:38 PM |
| Wednesday | 05:47 AM | 18:39 PM |
| Thursday | 05:47 AM | 18:39 PM |
| Friday | 05:47 AM | 18:39 PM |
| Saturday | 05:47 AM | 18:40 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Today | - | 06:25 PM | 19:54 PM |
| Wednesday | - | 07:23 PM | 21:01 PM |
| Thursday | - | 08:27 PM | 22:07 PM |
| Friday | - | 09:33 PM | 23:07 PM |
| Saturday | - | 10:38 PM | - |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Showers | 20 / 16 °F |
| Beijing | Mostly Sunny | 30 / 13 °F |
| Hong Kong | Partly Cloudy | 21 / 20 °F |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | 28 / 21 °F |
| London | Partly Cloudy | 22 / 12 °F |
| Los Angeles | Partly Cloudy | 25 / 14 °F |
| Manila | Thunderstorms | 33 / 27 °F |
| Melbourne | Mostly Cloudy | 16 / 10 °F |
| Miami | Partly Cloudy | 29 / 24 °F |
| New York | Mostly Sunny | 24 / 13 °F |
| Osaka | Cloudy | 22 / 14 °F |
| Paris | Partly Cloud | 30 / 18 °F |
| Busan | Sunny | 24 / 16 °F |
| Rome | Sunny | 30 / 16 °F |
| Salem | Sunny | 31 / 15 °F |
| San Francisco | Sunny | 18 / 10 °F |
| Seoul | Sunny | 27 / 13 °F |
| Tokyo | Cloudy | 19 / 14 °F |
| Washington, DC | Mostly Sunny | 25 / 12 °F |

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | FEET |
|---|---|---|
| 02:16 AM | Low Tide | 1.24 |
| 07:21 AM | High Tide | 2.13 |
| 2:38 PM | Low Tide | -0.39 |
| 9:41 PM | High Tide | 2.15 |

# STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

■ Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.

■ Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.

■ Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

■ Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.

■ Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.

■ Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html

■ Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

**Continue good hand hygiene**

■ Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.

■ Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

**Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic**

■ Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:

• Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

• Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

• Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

**Rumor control**

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

*Source: Office of the Governor*

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# FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 1, 2022

## DEPARTURES

### SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA117 | 6:35AM | 7:15AM | 1, 3, 6 |
| UA117 | 9:50AM | 10:35AM | 2, 4, 5, 7 |

### GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PR 111 | 6:00AM | 8:00AM | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 |
| UA193 | 7:05PM | 10:55PM | 5 via Palau |
| UA183 | 7:10PM | 9:10PM | Daily |

### SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA117/183 | 6:35AM | 9:10PM | 1, 3, 6 via Guam |
| UA117/193 | 6:35AM | 10:55PM | 5 via Guam, Palau |
| UA117/183 | 9:50AM | 9:10PM | 2, 4, 5, 7 via Guam |

### SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| TW9308 | 3:30PM | 7:20PM | 4, 7 |
| 7C3405 | 3:30PM | 7:25PM | 6 |
| RS112 | 3:45PM | 7:30PM | 3, 6 |
| 7C3405 | 3:50PM | 7:45PM | 3 |
| OZ624 | 4:00PM | 7:40PM | 3, 6 |

### SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| BX622 | 3:10PM | 6:30PM | 3, 7 |

## ARRIVALS

### GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA116 | 5:00AM | 5:45AM | 1, 3, 6 |
| UA116 | 8:00AM | 8:45AM | 5, 7 |
| UA174 | 8:00AM | 8:45AM | 2, 4 |

### MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PR110 | 10:35PM | 4:35AM+1 | 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| UA184 | 10:25PM | 4:20AM+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| UA192 | 10:25PM | 6:05AM+1 | 5 via Palau |
| UA184 | 11:50PM | 5:40AM+1 | 5 |

### MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA184/116 | 10:25PM | 5:45AM+1 | 2, 5, 7 via Guam |
| UA184/116 | 10:25PM | 8:45AM+1 | 1, 3 via Guam |
| UA184/174 | 10:25PM | 8:45AM+1 | 4, 6 via Guam |

### INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3406 | 8:30AM | 2:10PM | 6 |
| RS111 | 8:45AM | 2:05PM | 3, 6 |
| 7C3406 | 8:50AM | 2:30PM | 3 |
| TW9307 | 9:00AM | 2:30PM | 4, 7 |
| OZ623 | 9:00AM | 2:30PM | 3, 6 |

### BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| BX621 | 8:00AM | 1:10PM | 3, 7 |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

# STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

### SAIPAN TO ROTA

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1301 | 8:30AM | 9:00AM | Daily |
| 1302 | 11:00AM | 11:30AM | Daily |
| 1303 | 1:30PM | 2:00PM | Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri |
| 1304 | 3:30PM | 4:00PM | Daily |

### ROTA TO SAIPAN

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3101 | 9:30AM | 10:00AM | Daily |
| 3102 | 12:00AM | 12:30AM | Daily |
| 3103 | 1:30PM | 3:00PM | Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri |
| 3104 | 4:30PM | 5:00PM | Daily |

### ROTA TO GUAM

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3401 | 12:15 | 12:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |

### GUAM TO ROTA

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4301 | 13:00 | 13:30 | Temporarily Unavailable |

### SAIPAN TO TINIAN

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1201 | 7:00 | 7:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 1202 | 8:00 | 8:15 | Daily |
| 1203 | 9:00 | 9:15 | Daily |
| 1204 | 10:00 | 10:15 | Daily |
| 1205 | 11:00 | 11:15 | Daily |
| 1206 | 12:00 | 12:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 1207 | 13:00 | 13:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 1208 | 14:00 | 14:15 | Daily |
| 1209 | 15:00 | 15:15 | Daily |
| 1210 | 16:00 | 16:15 | Daily |
| 1211 | 17:00 | 17:15 | Daily |
| 1212 | 17:00 | 17:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |

### TINIAN TO SAIPAN

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2101 | 7:30 | 7:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 2102 | 8:30 | 8:45 | Daily |
| 2103 | 9:30 | 9:45 | Daily |
| 2104 | 10:30 | 10:45 | Daily |
| 2105 | 11:30 | 11:45 | Daily |
| 2106 | 12:30 | 12:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 2107 | 13:30 | 13:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 2108 | 14:30 | 14:45 | Daily |
| 2109 | 15:30 | 15:45 | Daily |
| 2110 | 16:30 | 16:45 | Daily |
| 2111 | 17:30 | 17:45 | Daily |
| 2112 | 18:30 | 18:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |

# Business

# Musk puts Twitter buy 'on hold,' casting doubt on $44B deal

**DETROIT** (AP)—Tesla billionaire Elon Musk has put his plan to buy Twitter on what he called a temporary "hold," raising fresh doubts about whether he'll proceed with the $44 billion acquisition.

Musk

Musk tweeted early Friday that he wanted to pinpoint the number of spam and fake accounts on the social media platform. He has been vocal about his desire to clean up Twitter's problem with "spam bots" that mimic real people, and he appeared to question whether Twitter was underreporting them.

But the company has disclosed in regulatory filings that its bot estimates might be low for at least two years, leading some analysts to believe that Musk could be raising the issue as a reason to back out of the purchase.

"Twitter deal temporarily on hold pending details supporting calculation that spam/fake accounts do indeed represent less than 5% of users," Musk tweeted Friday morning, indicating he's skeptical that the number of inauthentic accounts is that low.

On Friday, Musk subsequently tweeted that he's "still committed to acquisition." Neither Twitter nor Musk responded Friday to requests for comment. Musk has conducted a long flirtation with Twitter that culminated in an April deal to acquire the social platform.

The problem of fake accounts on Twitter is not a secret.

In its quarterly filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Twitter itself expressed doubts that its count of bot accounts was correct, conceding that the estimate may be low. "In making this determination, we applied significant judgment, so our estimation of false or spam accounts may not accurately represent the actual number of such accounts, and the actual number of false or spam accounts could be higher than we have estimated," the filing says.

A review of Twitter filings with the SEC shows that the company's estimate of spam bot accounts and similar language expressing uncertainty about it have been in Twitter's quarterly and annual reports for at least two years, well before Musk made his offer.

Sara Silver, a professor of business journalism and financial communication at Quinnipiac University, said it appears Musk is using the number of spam accounts as a pretext to pull out of the deal.

"To claim that this is the reason that he's putting the deal on pause, it's not credible," Silver said. "This is not a new issue for him. It's not just entering his consciousness now."

Stock in both Twitter and Tesla swung sharply in opposite directions Friday, with Twitter stock falling 9.7% and shares of Tesla, which Musk has proposed using to help fund the Twitter deal, rising 5.7%.

# Baby formula shortage fueling spike in milk bank interest

By MIKE CATALINI and PAT EATON-ROBB
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The U.S. baby formula shortage has sparked a surge of interest at milk banks around the U.S. with some mothers offering to donate breast milk and desperate parents calling to see if it's a solution to keep their babies fed.

It's a pathway that won't work for every formula-fed baby, especially those with special dietary needs, and it comes with challenges because the country's dozens of nonprofit milk banks prioritize feeding medically fragile infants. The organizations collect milk from mothers and process it, including through pasteurization, then work with hospitals to distribute it.

The shortage stemmed from a safety recall and supply disruptions and has captured national attention with panicked parents looking to swap and buy formula online and President Joe Biden urging manufacturers to increase production and discussing with retailers how they could restock shelves to meet regional disparities. Biden's administration also said Friday that formula maker Abbott Laboratories committed to give rebates through August for a food stamp-like program that helps women, infants and children called WIC.

At the Mothers' Milk Bank Northeast, based in Newton, Massachusetts, interest in donating and receiving milk because of the shortage has spiked. Typically, the milk bank gets about 30-50 calls a month from people looking to donate. On Thursday alone, 35 calls came in from potential donors, said Deborah Youngblood, the bank's executive director.

AP

Rebecca Heinrich, director of the Mothers' Milk Bank, loads frozen milk donated by lactating mothers from plastic bags into bottles for distribution to babies Friday, May 13, 2022, at the foundation's headquarters in Arvada, Colo.

"It's interesting the first sort of response that we got was from potential donors—so people responding to the formula shortage with sort of an amazing, compassionate response of 'how can I be part of the solution?'" she said.

Youngblood was talking about people like Kayla Gillespie, a 38-year-old mother of three from Hays, Kansas. Gillespie first donated to the Mothers' Milk Bank in Denver six years ago, giving 18 gallons (68 liters) after the birth of her first child, and wasn't planning to do it again.

"I thought 18 gallons was sufficient for one person," she said. "If I hadn't heard of the shortage, I wouldn't be going through the process again, just because I have three kids and it's a little chaotic around here."

She has pledged at least 150 ounces of her milk, but said she expects to give much more than that.

"I'm very blessed with being able to produce milk, so I just felt I needed to do something," she said.

She said in the past she has shipped her frozen milk in special containers to Denver, but this time, her local hospital is taking the donations and she can just drop them off.

It's not only donors, though. Parents desperately seeking nutrition for their babies are pursuing milk banks as well.

At the Massachusetts milk bank, about 30 people called looking for milk because they couldn't find their baby's usual formula, Youngblood said. That's up from nearly no calls at all, since the milk bank typically serves hospitals.

# Finland, Sweden inch closer to seeking NATO membership

**BERLIN** (AP)—Finland's government declared a "new era" is underway as it inches closer to seeking NATO membership, hours before Sweden's governing party on Sunday backed a plan to join the trans-Atlantic alliance amid Russia's war in Ukraine.

Russia has long bristled about NATO moving closer to its borders, so the developments will be sure to further anger Moscow. President Vladimir Putin has already warned his Finnish counterpart on Saturday that relations would be "negatively affected."

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said Sunday the process for Finland and Sweden to join could be very quick. He also didn't expect Turkey to hold up the process.

Speaking after top diplomats from the alliance's 30 member states met in Berlin, Stoltenberg also expressed his hope that Ukraine could win the war as Russian military advances appear to be faltering.

In Finland, President Sauli Niinisto and Prime Minister Sanna Marin confirmed earlier statements that their country would seek membership in NATO during a joint news conference at the Presidential Palace in Helsinki. The Nordic country, which was nonaligned before changing its stance on NATO, shares a long border with Russia.

"This is a historic day. A new era begins," Niinisto said.

The Finnish Parliament is expected to endorse the decision in the coming days. A formal membership application will then be submitted to NATO headquarters in Brussels, most likely at some point next week.

Sweden, also nonaligned, moved a step closer to applying for NATO membership after the governing Social Democratic party met Sunday and backed joining the trans-Atlantic alliance.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### $230M settlement reached over 2015 California oil spill

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—The owner of an oil pipeline that spewed thousands of barrels of crude oil onto Southern California beaches in 2015 has agreed to pay $230 million to settle a class-action lawsuit brought by fishermen and property owners, court documents show. Houston-based Plains All American Pipeline agreed to pay $184 million to fishermen and fish processors and $46 million to coastal property owners in the settlement reached Friday, according to court documents. The company didn't admit liability in the agreement, which follows seven years of legal wrangling. The agreement still must undergo a public comment period and needs federal court approval. A hearing on the matter is scheduled for June 10.

### Saudi oil giant Aramco's first-quarter profits surge 80%

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates** (AP)—Oil giant Saudi Aramco said Sunday its profits soared more than 80% in the first three months of the year, as the state-backed company cashes in on the volatility in global energy markets and surging oil prices following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The bumper first-quarter earnings by the firm formally known as the Saudi Arabian Oil Co., which overtook Apple as the world's most valuable company last week, show a record net income of $39.5 billion, up from $21.7 billion during the same period last year. The figure marks the oil group's highest quarterly profit since 2019, when the Saudi government, which owns 98% of the company, listed a sliver of its worth on Riyadh's Tadawul stock exchange in what was then the world's largest-ever initial public offering.

### Some Shanghai businesses to reopen Monday, officials say

**TAIPEI, Taiwan** (AP)—Supermarkets, malls and restaurants in Shanghai will be allowed to open in a limited capacity starting Monday, officials said, even while it remained unclear whether residents would be let out from their homes. The city's Vice Mayor Chen Tong said Sunday at a daily press briefing that grocery stores, malls, convenience stores and pharmacies will be allowed to reopen while implementing measures that "reduce the flow of people."

Agriculture markets will also be allowed to reopen while ensuring "no contact" transactions. Restaurants will be allowed to serve takeout. However, Shanghai's transportation department said Sunday that all subway lines in the city had stopped operating. It was unclear when those services would restart.

### G7 warn of Ukraine grain crisis, ask China not to aid Russia

**WEISSENHAUS, Germany** (AP)—The Group of Seven leading economies warned Saturday that the war in Ukraine is stoking a global food and energy crisis which threatens poor countries, and urgent measures are needed to unblock stores of grain that Russia is preventing from leaving Ukraine. German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock, who hosted a meeting of top G-7 diplomats, said the war had become a "global crisis." She said up to 50 million people, particularly in Africa and the Middle East, would face hunger in the coming months unless ways are found to release Ukrainian grain, which accounts for a sizeable share of the worldwide supply. In statements released at the end of the three-day meeting on Germany's Baltic Sea coast, the G-7 pledged to provide further humanitarian aid to the most vulnerable.

# Nation

## California churchgoers detained gunman in deadly attack

**LAGUNA WOODS, Calif.** (AP)—A man opened fire during a lunch reception at a Southern California church on Sunday, killing one person and wounding five senior citizens before being stopped and hog-tied by parishioners in what a sheriff's official called an act of "exceptional heroism and bravery."

Four of the five people wounded suffered critical gunshot injuries during the violence at Geneva Presbyterian Church in the city of Laguna Woods, Orange County Sheriff's Department officials said.

The suspect in the shooting, an Asian man in his 60s, was in custody and deputies recovered two handguns at the scene, Undersheriff Jeff Hallock said. A motive for the shooting wasn't immediately known but investigators don't believe the gunman lives in the community, he said.

The majority of those inside the church at the time were believed to be of Taiwanese descent, said Carrie Braun, a sheriff's spokesperson.

Between 30 and 40 members of the Irvine Taiwanese Presbyterian Church were gathered for lunch after a morning church service at Geneva when gunfire erupted shortly before 1:30 p.m., officials said. When deputies arrived, parishioners had the gunman hog-tied and in custody.

AP

Crime scene tape is stretched across an area at Geneva Presbyterian Church in Laguna Woods, Calif., Sunday, May 15, 2022, after a fatal shooting.

"That group of churchgoers displayed what we believe is exceptional heroism and bravery in intervening to stop the suspect. They undoubtedly prevented additional injuries and fatalities," Hallock said. "I think it's safe to say that had people not intervened, it could have been much worse."

The wounded victims were four Asian men, who were 66, 75, 82 and 92 years old, and an 86-year-old Asian woman, the sheriff's department said. Authorities originally said only four of the five surviving victims had been shot.

Information about the person who was killed were not immediately released.

The investigation was in its early stages, Hallock said. He said the many unanswered questions include whether the assailant attended the church service, if he was known to church members and how many shots were fired.

The afternoon lunch reception was honoring a former pastor of the Taiwanese congregation, according to a statement from the Presbytery of Los Ranchos, a church administrative body.

"Please keep the leadership of the Taiwanese congregation and Geneva in your prayers as they care for the those traumatized by this shooting," the presbytery's Tom Cramer said in a statement on Facebook.

Federal agents from the FBI and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives responded. The FBI also sent agents to the scene to assist the sheriff.

Laguna Woods was built as a senior living community and later became a city. More than 80% of residents in the city of 18,000 people about 50 miles (80 kilometers) southeast of Los Angeles are at least 65.

Gov. Gavin Newsom's office said on Twitter that he was closely monitoring the situation.

"No one should have to fear going to their place of worship. Our thoughts are with the victims, community, and all those impacted by this tragic event," the tweet said.

The incident occurred in an area with a cluster of houses of worship, including Catholic, Lutheran and Methodist churches and a Jewish synagogue.

On its website, Geneva Presbyterian Church describes its mission as "to remember, tell, and live the way of Jesus by being just, kind, and humble."

## 'Hero' guard, shoppers among ten Buffalo shooting victims

**BUFFALO, N.Y.** (AP)—Aaron Salter was a beloved community member and security guard who knew the shoppers of Tops Friendly Market by name. When they came under attack from a gunman with a rifle, he sprang into action.

The retired Buffalo police officer fired multiple times at the attacker, striking his armor-plated vest at least once. The bullet didn't pierce, and Salter, 55, was shot and killed.

"He's a true hero," Buffalo Police Commissioner Joseph Gramaglia said Sunday. "There could have been more victims if not for his actions."

Salter was one of 10 killed in an attack whose victims represented a cross-section of life in the predominantly Black neighborhood in Buffalo, New York. They were gunned down by a white man who authorities say showed up at the store with the "express purpose" of killing Black people, one of whom was Salter. Three others were wounded.

All but one of the people killed was over age 50, according to police.

The dead included Andre Mackneil, 53, of Auburn, New York, who was in town visiting relatives and was picking up a surprise birthday cake for his grandson.

"He never came out with the cake," Clarissa Alston-McCutcheon said of her cousin. She said this sort of surprise was typical for him. He was "just a loving and caring guy. Loved family. Was always there for his family."

Another victim, Heyward Patterson, 67, was a deacon at a nearby church. He'd gone by the church's soup kitchen before heading to the supermarket, where he offered an informal taxi service driving people home with their bags.

## ACROSS THE NATION

### 3 shot and killed in Milwaukee following night of violence

**MILWAUKEE** (AP)—Milwaukee police on Sunday were investigating three separate overnight shootings in which a 17-year-old boy and two men in their 20s died. The shootings came a night after a night of violence in which 21 people were shot and wounded in three other attacks near the Fiserv Forum in downtown Milwaukee as the Bucks were taking on the Boston Celtics in Game 6 of their NBA playoffs series. Those shootings led authorities to impose an 11 p.m. curfew on Saturday and Sunday. The Bucks canceled a fan watch party for Sunday afternoon's decisive Game 7. The Milwaukee County medical examiner said a 21-year-old man died after a shooting that happened near 11th and Rogers streets around 11:45 p.m. Saturday, Fox6 News reported. About 40 minutes later, a 17-year-old Milwaukee boy was killed in a shooting that police say might have been related to a robbery. The victim had a gun on him. The third fatal shooting happened near 19th Street and Lincoln Avenue around 2:30 a.m. Sunday. Police said a 28-year-old local man died.

### Teen gunned down near Chicago's 'Bean' tourist attraction

**CHICAGO** (AP)—A curfew banning unaccompanied minors will be implemented to combat violence after a 16-year-old boy was fatally shot near "The Bean" sculpture in downtown Chicago's Millennium Park, which is among the city's most popular tourist attractions, city officials said Sunday. Police said the teen was shot in the chest at about 7:30 p.m. Saturday near the giant, mirrored structure. Police didn't immediately release the teen's name. He was taken to Lurie Children's Hospital where he was pronounced dead, police said.

### Sheriff: 2 dead, 3 hospitalized in Houston market shooting

**HOUSTON** (AP)—Two people were killed and three more were taken to a hospital with injuries after a shooting Sunday at a bustling Houston flea market, authorities. The shooting at the open-air market arose from an "altercation" that involved at least two guns and all five of the people, according to Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez. He said no "innocent bystanders" were injured. Investigators believe one of the people hospitalized was among those who opened fire and two more suspected shooters were detained at the scene, a sheriff's deputy told KTRK-TV. Thousands of people were shopping at the the market 14 miles (22 kilometers) north of Houston's downtown when the shooting began around 1 p.m. Sunday, Gonzalez said on Twitter.

### US set to remove 5 groups from foreign terrorism blacklist

**BERLIN** (AP)—The United States is poised to remove five extremist groups, all believed to be defunct, from its list of foreign terrorist organizations, including several that once posed significant threats, killing hundreds if not thousands of people across Asia, Europe and the Middle East. Although the groups are inactive, the decision is politically sensitive for the Biden administration and the countries in which the organizations operated, and could draw criticism from victims and their families still dealing with the losses of loved ones. The organizations are the Basque separatist group ETA , the Japanese cult Aum Shinrikyo, the radical Jewish group Kahane Kach and two Islamic groups that have been active in Israel, the Palestinian territories and Egypt.

### Biden urges unity to stem racial hate after Buffalo shooting

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—President Joe Biden urged unity Sunday to address the "hate that remains a stain on the soul of America" after a deadly mass shooting at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York, while state officials pleaded for federal action to end the "uniquely American phenomenon" of mass shootings. Addressing an annual law enforcement ceremony at the U.S. Capitol, Biden said he and his wife, Jill, pray for those who were shot "by a gunman, armed with weapons of war and hate-filled soul," and their families. Authorities say a white 18-year-old male in military gear opened fire on shoppers and workers at the supermarket on Saturday, killing 10 people, including a retired Buffalo police officer, and wounding three others. Most of the victims were Black.

### Florida bridge plane crash killed 1 on board, police say

**MIAMI** (AP)—One of the three people aboard a small plane died when it crashed onto a bridge near Miami this weekend, police said. The aircraft lost power Saturday shortly after takeoff, coming down on the bridge and striking an SUV, then bursting into flames. The two other people on the plane were taken to a trauma center, while a woman and two toddlers in the vehicle were taken to a hospital with non-life threatening injuries, according to the Miami-Dade Police. No further information was released on the person who died. Police said the body was found in the wreckage after firefighters put out the flames. Drone video on social media showed the plane crumpled on the bridge with a damaged SUV nearby. A man can be seen scrambling from the plane and being helped by others to the side of the roadway just before the aircraft is engulfed in flames.

# World

## Small wins buoy Ukraine; West says Russia losing momentum

**KYIV, Ukraine** (AP)—Almost three months after Russia shocked the world by invading Ukraine, its military faces a bogged-down war, the prospect of a bigger NATO, and an opponent buoyed Sunday by wins on and off the battlefield.

Top diplomats from NATO met in Berlin with the alliance's chief, who declared that the war "is not going as Moscow had planned."

"Ukraine can win this war," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said, adding that the alliance must continue to offer military support to Kyiv. He spoke by video link to the meeting as he recovers from a COVID-19 infection.

On the diplomatic front, both Finland and Sweden took steps bringing them closer to NATO membership despite Russian objections. Finland announced Sunday that it was seeking to join NATO, saying the invasion had changed Europe's security landscape. Several hours later, Sweden's governing party endorsed the country's own bid for membership, which could lead to an application in days.

If the two nonaligned Nordic nations become part of the alliance, it would represent an affront to Russian President Vladimir Putin, who has called NATO's post-Cold War expansion in Eastern Europe as a threat to Russia. NATO says it is a purely defensive alliance.

While Moscow lost ground on the diplomatic front, Russian forces also failed to make territorial gains in eastern Ukraine.

Ukraine said it held off Russian offensives in the east, and Western military officials said the campaign Moscow launched there after its forces failed to seize the capital, Kyiv, has slowed to a snail's pace.

Ukraine, meanwhile, celebrated a morale-boosting victory in the Eurovision Song Contest. The folk-rap ensemble Kalush Orchestra won the glitzy pan-European competition with its song "Stefania," which has become a anthem among Ukrainians during the war.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy vowed that his nation would claim the customary winner's honor of hosting the next annual competition.

"Step by step, we are forcing the occupiers to leave the Ukrainian land," Zelenskyy said.

## Kim blasts COVID-19 response; North Korean outbreak surges

**SEOUL, South Korea** (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Un blasted officials over slow medicine deliveries and ordered his military to respond to the surging but largely undiagnosed COVID-19 crisis that has left 1.2 million people ill with fever and 50 dead in a matter of days, state media said Monday.

More than 564,860 people are in quarantine due to the fever that has rapidly spread among people in and around the capital, Pyongyang, since late April. Eight more deaths and 392,920 newly detected fevers were reported Monday, the North's emergency anti-virus headquarters said.

State media didn't specify how many were confirmed as COVID-19, but North Korea is believed to lack sufficient testing supplies to confirm coronavirus infections in large numbers and is mostly relying on isolating people with symptoms at shelters.

Failing to slow the virus could have dire consequences for North Korea, considering its broken health care system and that its 26 million people are believed to be unvaccinated, with malnourishment and other conditions of poverty.

Kim during a ruling party Politburo meeting on Sunday criticized government and health officials over what he portrayed as a botched pandemic response, saying medicine supplies aren't being distributed to pharmacies in time because of their "irresponsible work attitude" and lack of organization, the North's official Korean Central News Agency said.

The Politburo had issued an emergency order to immediately release and quickly distribute state medicine reserves and for pharmacies to open for 24-hour shifts, but Kim said such steps weren't being properly implemented. Kim ordered the medical units of his military to get involved in stabilizing the supply of medicine in Pyongyang, KCNA said.

Kim and Politburo members after the meeting made on-site inspections of pharmacies in a district in Pyongyang, where Kim lamented that most of the shops were in poor condition and lacked storage spaces and criticized some pharmacists for not wearing proper white gowns.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Suicide bomber kills 6, gunmen kill 2 Sikhs in NW Pakistan

**PESHAWAR, Pakistan** (AP) — A suicide bombing near a security forces vehicle killed three soldiers and three children in northwest Pakistan near the border with Afghanistan on Sunday, while gunmen shot dead two minority Sikhs in Peshawar, officials said. A military statement said the suicide bomber triggered his explosives-laden vest near a vehicle on security patrol in a village near the town of Mir Ali in the tribal district of North Waziristan. The attack killed two soldiers in the vehicle on the spot and wounded another. Three children playing alongside the road were also critically wounded. All of the wounded were rushed to a hospital in a helicopter but none survived, the statement said. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack.

### India open to exporting wheat to needy nations despite ban

NEW DELHI (AP) — India on Sunday said it would keep a window open to export wheat to food-deficit countries at the government level despite restrictions announced two days earlier. India's Commerce Secretary B.V.R. Subrahmanyam told reporters the government will also allow private companies to meet previous commitments to export nearly 4.3 million tons of wheat until July. India exported 1 million tons of wheat in April. India mainly exports wheat to neighboring countries like Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka. A notice in the government gazette by the Directorate of Foreign Trade on Friday said a spike in global prices for wheat was threatening the food security of India and neighboring and vulnerable countries.


In Celebration of Her New Life

Teresita Lizama Tyquiengco

Lovingly known as "Coling"

Born to life: August 12, 1951 | Called to Eternal Life: May 11, 2022

**In her Eternal Life, she now joins:**
**Father:** Jose Mendiola Lizama
**Mother:** Rita Cruz Lizama
**Husband:** Jesus Naputi Tyquiengco
**Daughter:** Rita T. Benavente
**Son in Law:** Miguel T. Camacho

**Her spirit and memories will forever live in the hearts of:**
**Children (Grandchildren):**
**(†) Rita T. & Joe D. Benavente**
(Jacinta & Jarett Elm & Children)
(Joe D. Benavente Jr. & Daisy Conceicao & Children)
(Joseph T. Benavente & Jenalyn Sanchez & Daughter)
**Incanasion "Connie" T. Camacho**
(Terrilynn L. Tyquiengco & David Mata & Children)
(Annarose T. & Anthony Camacho & Children)
(Jesse T. Tyquiengco & Bobby Jean)
(Jojo L. Tyquiengco)
(Joseph L. Tyquiengco & Francine)
(Geegee L. Tyquiengco)
(Maria T. Camacho)
(Michelle T. Camacho)
**Jose L. Tyquiengco & Genoven C. Tyquiengco**
(Crowley Cruz & Christina Bautista)
(Joven C. Tyquiengco & Joaquin O. Castro & Children)
(Nicole C. Tyquiengco & Children)
(Jose C. Tyquiengco Jr.)
(Alexiana C. Tyquiengco & Justin Kosam & Daughter)
(Jesus Te C. Tyquiengco)
**Maria T. & Jesse B. Vilante**
(Lorita T. Vilante & Sinjin Santos)
(Melanie V. & Jarret Castro & Children)
(Isaiah J. T. Vilante)
(Luke E. T. Vilante)
**Clarita L. Tyquiengco**
**Special Partner:** **Orlando F. Imanil**
**Siblings:**
(†) Manuel B. Lizama & Family
(†) Maria L./ (†) Ramon Kaipat & Family
Mercedes L./ (†) Juan M. Aguon & Family
(†) Trinidad C./ (†) Luis C. Cepeda & Family
(†) Jesus C./ Maria Lizama & Family
(†) Joaquin C. / (†) Monica C. Lizama & Family
(†) Carmen L./ (†) Jose Torres & Family
(†) Benedicto C. Lizama & Family
(†) Ramon C./Virginia L. Lizama & Family
Ignacia L./Hideo Osada & Family
Pedro B. Lizama
Vicente C./ (†) Suzanne W. Lizama & Family
Dionisio B. Camacho/Patricia San Nicolas & Family
**In-laws:**
(†) Mariquita T./Mariano Quinene & Family
(†) Jose N./ (†) Rosa C. Tyquiengco & Family
(†) Dolores T./ (†) Felipe Pinaula & Family
Francisco C./ (†) Maria S. Tyquiengco & Family
Carmen T./ (†) Jose Asanoma & Family

Our beloved Teresita is additionally survived by numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, godchildren, relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2022. Her remains will be escorted from the Borja Funeral Home to San Jose (Oleai) Church at 07:30 am. Responso service will take place upon arrival of her remains followed by recitation of holy rosary. Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 10:30 am. Following the Mass, her remains will be brought back to Borja Funeral Home for Cremation.

**Thank you Yan si Yu'us Ma'se**

*The Family*

# Overdrive

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

## Larger, more lavish, and eco-friendly, the 2023 Kia Sportage is far more fascinating

If vehicles like the Kia Telluride, Sorrento and Soul have proven anything, it's that Kia is hitting its stride. If you are still put off by the brand that once sold its vehicles using rapping hamsters, your image of the brand is more than a decade old.

It's hard to overstate the transformation that has overtaken the brand in the last few years. You probably didn't notice until the Telluride debuted, causing consumers to consider Kia for the first time. And with the launch of the all-new redesigned 2023 Kia Sportage, the queues at the Kia stores are about to get longer.

A compact SUV, the 2023 Kia Sportage plays in the heart of the current new vehicle market against a slew of mainstream competitors, including the Toyota RAV4, Honda CR-V and Mazda CX-5. And with the possible exception of the Mazda, the newest Sportage beats the big boys in this segment.

Offered in three trim levels—LX, EX and SX-Prestige—as well as an off-road X-Pro model, the 2023 Sportage rides on the N3 platform used for the bigger Sorento. While still a compact, it's 7.1 inches longer and 2 inches taller than before, which makes for a remarkably roomy cabin. There's more than 41 inches of legroom in both rows, while the cargo area has grown 28% to 39.6 cubic feet, so there's room for you, your friends and family, and your stuff. So, yeah, it's practical.

But the 2023 Kia Sportage also proves to be far more stimulating than the demure vehicle it replaces.

Certainly, designers cranked the visual volume, with a graphically dissonant face that lacks the conservative certainty of a Telluride. Designers also added detailing on the roof pillars as well as the rear, which proves visually more cohesive than its face.

Inside, you'll find a mixture of hard and soft surfaces typical in this class. What proves surprising is the Sportage's two 12.3-inch displays, one for the instrument cluster, the other for infotainment. They're integrated into a wide horizontal panel similar to those used by many high-end automakers. High-end tech design at a Kia price? Way to go, guys. Cue the dancing hamsters; we're psyched about that.

And there are other bits of cool tech as well, such as the thin horizontal touchscreen framed by two knobs. Tap it, and you have climate controls. Tap it again, and you'll have infotainment screen controls. It's novel, yet it contributes to the cabin's minimalist interior vibe.

So, what's it like to drive? Better than before.

Kia offers three different powertrain options, with base models getting a 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine that generates 187 horsepower and 178 pound-feet of torque through an eight-speed automatic transmission with front- or all-wheel drive. Opt for the off-road ready Sportage X-Pro, and you'll get this engine and standard all-wheel drive along with B.F. Goodrich tires and an extra 1.5 inches of ground clearance.

But unless you're going off-road, the best choice is the Sportage Hybrid, powered by a 1.6-liter turbocharged four mated to a single electric motor and a 1.5 kilowatt-hour lithium-ion battery pack. It delivers more power than the base engine—227 horsepower and 258 pound-feet of torque—while delivering superior fuel economy. Paired to a six-speed automatic with either front- or all-wheel drive, the hybrid returns a combined 43 mpg with the former, 38 mpg with the latter.

Kia will also offer a plug-in hybrid, which pairs the same powertrain and a larger lithium-ion battery pack. This not only provides even more power—261 horsepower and 258 pound-feet of torque—it also provides 32 miles of pure electric driving.

Sampling both the normally aspirated X-Pro and the Hybrid models, the more fuel-efficient powertrain proved worth the minimal extra cost. Kia expects some 70% of buyers to pick the base 2.5-liter model, and certainly power is adequate, but it's no more impressive than its many competitors. Fuel efficiency is decent, at 25 mpg city, 32 mpg highway with front-wheel drive and 23/28 with all-wheel drive.

For a small premium, the Hybrid is the far better option. The electric motor provides low-end punch and the driveline feels livelier at all speeds, making for a far more enjoyable driving experience. Add in the superior fuel economy, and it makes for the Sportage's most enticing model. There's more than enough power, although at passing speeds, you may wish for a somewhat quicker response.

The Sportage's dynamics are good, but don't expect the enticing sportiness of a Mazda CX-5. The Sportage delivers a more equalized driving experience, balancing agility with comfort without extracting the ride penalty of some compact SUVs. Steering is precise, and you'll find modest body roll when tackling the twisties, despite its height and added mass. If you're opting for the Sportage X-Pro, you'll find it has the requisite cameras that make off-roading far easier. Its tires and driveline are capable enough for most off-road situations, but don't expect the lively responsiveness of the hybrid.

The Sportage has matured into a larger, more lavish vehicle, one that delivers great fuel economy and a pleasing driving experience. With prices starting at less than $26,000, it will have you wondering why you'd ever pay more for another SUV that delivers the Sporatge's virtues.

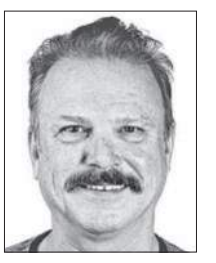
KIA/TNS
2023 Sportage X-Pro.

### NUTS & BOLTS

- Base price: $25,990-$36,190
- Engine: 1.6-liter turbocharged hybrid powertrain
- Horsepower/Torque: 227/258 pound-feet of torque
- EPA fuel economy (city/highway): 38/38 mpg
- Fuel required: 87 Octane
- Length/Width/Height: 183.5/73.4/66.3 inches
- Ground clearance: 8.3 inches
- Payload: 1,053 pounds
- Cargo capacity: 00 cubic feet
- Towing capacity: 2,000 pounds

# MOTORMOUTH: What's wrong with battery terminal?

By BOB WEBER
Chicago Tribune



*Bob Weber is a writer and mechanic who became an ASE-certified Master Automobile Technician in 1976. He maintains this status by seeking certification every five years. Weber's work appears in professional trade magazines and other consumer publications. His writing also appears in automotive trade publications,* Consumer Guide and Consumers Digest. *Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 160 N. Stetson Ave., Fourth Floor, Chicago, IL 60601 or motormouth.tribune@gmail.com.*

**Q: My 2014 Buick Regal positive battery terminal develops corrosion and gets very hot every couple of years and will not crank the engine. I have to remove the battery cable, clean corrosion powder off the terminal and cable end, then reconnect the positive cable terminal before the engine will crank. Is the battery cable terminal end material the problem?**

**A:** The heat is likely due to high electrical resistance as the voltage tries to break through the corrosion. After cleaning the terminal and cable clamp (which itself is unlikely the problem) and rinsing them with baking soda solution followed by plain water, coat the connection. Grease is an old standby, but I prefer products specifically designed for the job. If everything returns to normal after cleaning, the cable and clamp are fine.

**Q: One of my pet peeves is motorists who turn on their hazard flashers in a heavy rain. All it does is distract other drivers and lowers overall visibility. What's your take?**

**A:** I haven't heard of this practice and would not be a fan of it. Hazard flashers should be judiciously used when there is . . . a hazard. Traveling well below the speed limit like trucks climbing a hill below 40 mph on an interstate, or when there's heavy fog, or when broken down and on the shoulder. My pet peeve includes the plethora of non-emergency vehicles flashing amber arrays of laser-like LEDs—particularly after dark. And another thing, intense colored headlights—especially blue ones that look like cop cars. And another thing….

**Q: We're fortunate enough to be able to buy a new car this year. In the past, it was recommended that we drive a new car about 500 miles around town in stop-and-go traffic prior to taking any long highway trips. Does that recommendation still hold?**

**A:** In the olden days you had to break in the engine like a new pair of cowboy boots. Today, tolerances are so precise that old fashioned break-ins are not usually required. Having said that, I still drive a new engine gently, accelerating gradually and varying speed regularly both around town and on the highway. Hmm. No wonder my boots feel so good.

**Q: I have a 2006 Toyota 4 Runner with 180,000 miles. It is an 8-cylinder, which I use for towing a boat, among other things. The check engine light came on and my local shop mechanics, who are very trustworthy, said that the issue is an emissions problem caused by faulty catalytic converters. There are four on that vehicle. They estimated a cost of as high as $8,000 to repair based on how much labor might be involved with rusted pipes. The blue book value for this truck appears to be right around $9,000. The truck runs very well and I'd be hard pressed to replace it for under $11,000 and then might risk the same problem with a vehicle that would probably also be more than 12 years old. What might you suggest?**

**A:** I don't know about your mechanics, but if one light bulb burns out in my house, I don't replace them all. Yes, cats are expensive, much more than the most expensive light bulb. Seek a second opinion.

# Life & Style

## ‘Doctor Strange 2’ keeps hold on top spot in 2nd weekend

By LINDSEY BAHR
AP FILM WRITER

“Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness” stayed on top of the box office charts during its second weekend in theaters, earning an additional $61 million from North American theaters, according to studio estimates Sunday.

With $688 million in global grosses, it’s already one of the highest grossing films of the pandemic and the second biggest of 2022. But a 67% fall is also a steep drop — even for reliably frontloaded superhero films. Still, “Spider-Man: No Way Home” slid 68% in weekend two.

Released by the Walt Disney Co., “ Doctor Strange 2 “ benefitted from being the first Marvel movie to follow “Spider-Man: No Way Home,” in which Benedict Cumberbatch’s sorcerer played a pivotal role.

Directed by Sam Raimi, “Doctor Strange 2” also builds upon the popular Disney+ series “Wandavision” and contains a number of cameos that fans didn’t want to be spoiled. The elements all came together to give “Doctor Strange” the 11th-biggest domestic debut of all time. But reviews also weren’t quite as strong as those for the latest “Spider-Man” installment, which could impact the film in the long run.

The movie has already exceeded the global earnings of the first “Doctor Strange” movie, as well as 11 other Marvel Cinematic Universe titles — and it’s not even playing in China.

“Audiences crave these big blockbusters on the big screen,” said Paul Dergarabedian, the senior media analyst for Comscore. “This marketplace has given ‘Doctor Strange’ a pretty long runway to be successful until ‘Top Gun.’”

There was little in the way of new competition. The only major new movie was Universal Pictures and Blumhouse’s adaptation of Stephen King’s “Firestarter,” which was released in both theaters and on the company’s streaming service, Peacock+.

Starring Zac Efron and Ryan Kiera Armstrong, “Firestarter” earned just $3.8 million from 3,412 North American theaters. Reviews for the film didn’t drop until the day of release, but critics have been less than impressed with this iteration of King’s story about a preteen with pyrokinetic powers. Audiences weren’t on board either, giving it a C- CinemaScore. As Dergarabedian noted, however, no film that opens “day and date” in theaters and on streaming is expecting to break any records.

“The notion that a theatrical exclusive debut gives movies their best shot at success is right,” Dergarabedian said.

“Firestarter” debuted in fourth place, behind holdover family films “The Bad Guys” and “Sonic the Hedgehog 2,” which took the second and third spots. Now in its fourth weekend, Universal’s “The Bad Guys” added $6.9 million, bringing its global grosses to $165.6 million. “Sonic 2,” in its sixth week, earned $4.6 million, raising its cumulative total to $175.7 million.

Meanwhile, “Everything Everywhere All At Once” is still going strong even after eight weeks in release. The A24 film picked up an additional $3.3 million, down only 6% from the previous weekend, bringing its total grosses to $47 million.

The faith-based comedy “Family Camp” also opened this weekend from Roadside Attractions. Playing on 854 screens, the PG-rated pic earned $1.4 million. And Bleecker Street released the well-reviewed indie “Montana Story,” starring Haley Lu Richardson as a woman who returns home with her estranged brother to care for their ailing father. “Montana Story” grossed $20,104 from four theaters.

## K-9 featured in Netflix’s ‘Rescued by Ruby’ euthanized

AP

Ruby, a working K-9 for the Rhode Island State Police and former shelter dog, returns to her partner, state police Cpl. Daniel O’Neil, outside the barracks in North Kingstown, R.I., Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2022.

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** (AP)— A Rhode Island dog whose inspiring story of going from shelter dog to lifesaving police K-9 became the subject of a recent Netflix movie has been euthanized.

State Police said Sunday K-9 Ruby was put down Friday following a “sudden, acute, and untreatable illness.” She was 11 years old.

Col. Darnell Weaver, superintendent of the state police, expressed gratitude for K-9 Ruby’s years of service.

“K-9 Ruby dedicated her life to serve the citizens of Rhode Island and make a positive impact on every person she ever interacted with,” he said in a statement. “She became a symbol of hope for all shelter dogs, showing the world what a shelter dog can do when just given love and the chance to shine.”

Ruby served with the Rhode Island State Police for 11 years and was handled by Corporal Daniel O’Neil, Weaver said.

Part Australian shepherd and part border collie, Ruby was one of the first shelter dogs trained to serve with the Rhode Island State Police. She participated in numerous search-and-rescue missions and made many public appearances during her career.

Ruby gained notoriety in 2017 when she located a teenage boy who was severely injured while hiking in the woods. The boy turned out to be the son of the animal shelter volunteer who had fought to keep her from being put down.

“She was a total knucklehead,” shelter volunteer and dog trainer Patricia Inman had told The Associated Press of Ruby, who had been returned by five families for being too rambunctious before O’Neil adopted the then-eight-month-old in 2011.

## Polish Nobel author says Russia threat to ‘free world’

Tokarczuk

**JERUSALEM** (AP)—A Polish Nobel Prize-winning author on Sunday called Russia a threat to the “free world,” saying its attack on neighboring Ukraine had echoes of the Second World War.

Olga Tokarczuk, known for her humanist themes and playful, subversive streak, spoke at a writers festival in Jerusalem.

“The Poles share the Ukrainian feeling of danger that Russia presents to the free world,” Tokarczuk said, adding that the Polish government had warned about the risk presented by Russian aggression for years.

Poland, Ukraine’s western neighbor, has taken in over three million Ukrainian refugees since Russia launched its invasion in late February. Warsaw has called for tough international sanctions against Russia.

“Nobody could imagine that this war would be so cruel so anachronistic and this war brings to mind the horrible images of World War Two,” she said.

Tokarczuk was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2018 for her 18th-century epic “The Books of Jacob,” about a Jewish mystic and sect leader named Jacob Frank.

## Hospice volunteer stunned by family’s generous gift

DEAR ABBY: For a few years, I volunteered to tend to an elderly woman through a hospice organization. My role was to visit with her while her son ran errands or enjoyed an evening of entertainment. I grew fond of her and her family.

For my 70th birthday, her daughter, son and daughter-in-law hosted an at-home dinner in my honor. It was good fun. In addition to a tasty dinner and homemade birthday cake, there were presents: wine, gag wine glass and a birthday card with a gift card enclosed. The wine is long gone, and I have used the wine glass ever since.

I left the gift card in the birthday card and set it aside. I recently wanted to buy a $20 coffee mug online, so I pulled out the gift card and was shocked to see the value of the card is almost four times more than the mug I fancied. I feel the gift is too much. How do I gracefully return the very generous gift?

**OVERWHELMED IN WASHINGTON**

**DEAR OVERWHELMED: Your heart is in the right place, but please do not reject that family’s gift of gratitude for what you did for their mother—and for them —during a difficult time. To do otherwise would be a breach of etiquette. Your acts of kindness are worth every penny, and you are deserving of what was given to you.**

■■■■

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband of 55 years never talks to me anymore. Unless I initiate conversation, he sits in silence, staring off into space. He says he has “nothing to say.” It drives me crazy. I suppose, after all these years, anything he says has been said before, but still, it leaves me feeling lonely and unloved.

When I tell him how it makes me feel, he says it isn’t the case, but he never changes. We don’t have TV, and I can read and do crossword puzzles by myself for just so long. I really look forward to the evening, when I can start drinking my whiskey, so I have a little pleasure in my life. I don’t have more than a couple of drinks because I understand the health risks, but tell me, what else can I do?

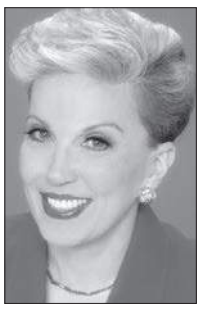
**TALKING TO MYSELF IN TEXAS**

**DEAR TALKING: What you can do is quit drinking to ease your loneliness and get out of the house. Socialize with others at least once a week. Look into opportunities to volunteer in your community. Take your husband with you if you can pry him out of his chair. The only thing you should NOT do is continue on the path you’re on.**

**P.S. If your husband’s passivity is new behavior, consider going with him to the doctor so he can be screened for depression. (While you’re there, it might not be a bad idea for you to be screened for it as well.)**

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
*UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE*



*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

■■■■

**DEAR ABBY:** This is not a big drama, but I think that if someone wants to give out my email address, they should first ask me for permission. I just received an email from an acquaintance telling me they had given out my email and THEN asking me if that was OK. No, it wasn’t! Abby, I’m not in witness protection, but my email address is private. Am I crazy?

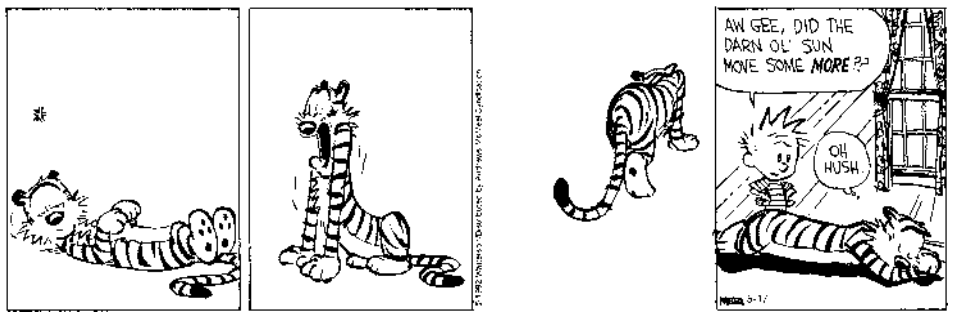
**CRANKY ON LONG ISLAND**

**DEAR CRANKY: Crazy? Not at all. What your nervy acquaintance did was breach whatever privacy is left in our society these days, which was thoughtless, rude and inexcusable.**

# Pastimes

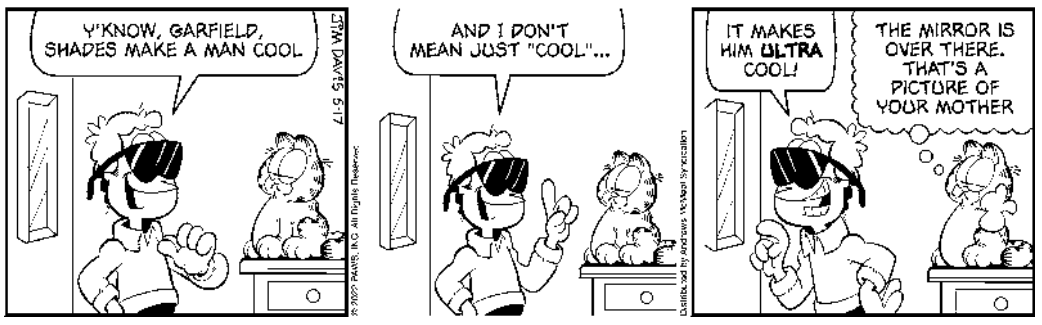
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



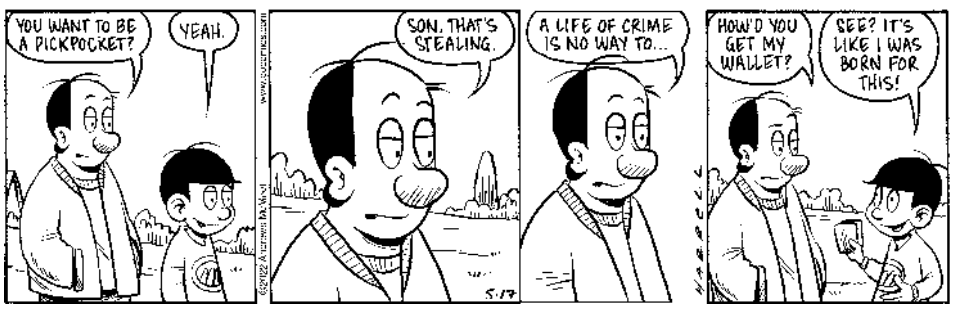

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis


Y'KNOW, GARFIELD, SHADES MAKE A MAN COOL
AND I DON'T MEAN JUST "COOL"...
IT MAKES HIM ULTRA COOL!
THE MIRROR IS OVER THERE. THAT'S A PICTURE OF YOUR MOTHER

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


YOU WANT TO BE A PICKPOCKET?
YEAH.
SON, THAT'S STEALING.
A LIFE OF CRIME IS NO WAY TO...
HOW'D YOU GET MY WALLET?
SEE? IT'S LIKE I WAS BORN FOR THIS!

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

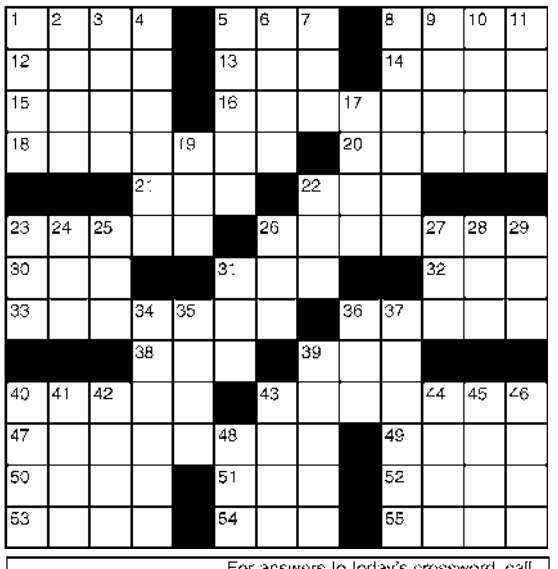
**ACROSS**
1 Sty chow
5 Gym unit
8 Fall (over)
12 Casual shirt
13 Eggs
14 Sax range
15 Tennis score
16 Taj Mahal spires
18 Bare-bones
20 Church areas
21 Long time
22 Scribble (down)
23 Language of Iran
26 Wisdom goddess
30 Einstein's birthplace
31 Boating hazard
32 Sundial numeral
33 Was sociable
36 Prank
38 Help
39 "Kapow!"
40 Talked a blue streak?
43 Small detail
47 Church VIP
49 Faxed
50 Exploits
51 Joan of —
52 Thus
53 New Age pianist John
54 "Not impressed"
55 Actress Cameron

**DOWN**
1 Junk email
2 California city
3 Lena of "Chocolat"
4 Shetlands, e.g.
5 Numeral type
6 Wicked
7 Zero-star review
8 Chopping spree?
9 Hgt.
10 Diminutive suffix
11 Privation
17 Shortly
19 French pronoun
22 Springy dance
23 "Fee, fi, fo, —"
24 Foreman foe
25 LBJ's successor
26 '60s chic
27 Shred
28 Compete
29 Tire filler
31 Nourished
34 Tastelessly showy
35 Fibs
36 Soda container
37 Tickled
39 Canoe material
40 Lewd material
41 Sagacious
42 Small bills
43 Simple
44 Actress Hatcher
45 "Young Frankenstein" role
46 Whole range
48 Highland hat

**Solution time: 22 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | H | A | I | ■ | W | A | C | ■ | A | M | A | T |
| N | O | R | M | ■ | I | S | H | ■ | M | A | S | H |
| B | L | A | B | ■ | T | A | I | ■ | P | I | P | E |
| C | A | L | I | F | H | ■ | T | E | E | N | S | Y |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | B | A | H | S | ■ | A | R | M | ■ | ■ |
| P | I | P | E | D | O | W | N | ■ | E | E | K | S |
| F | R | A | ■ | S | I | C | F | S | ■ | N | I | A |
| G | A | L | A | ■ | D | O | W | N | T | U | R | N |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | M | G | M | ■ | N | D | A | S | ■ | ■ |
| O | T | T | E | R | S | ■ | E | P | H | R | O | N |
| ■ | U | R | N | T | A | I | L | ■ | I | S | L | A |
| ■ | B | E | T | ■ | N | A | H | ■ | R | T | E | S |
| S | E | E | S | ■ | E | M | I | ■ | T | U | S | H |

Yesterday's answer 5-17



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Nikki Reed, 34; Derek Hough, 37; Trent Reznor, 57; Craig Ferguson, 60.

**Happy Birthday:** Put greater emphasis on health and emotional well-being -- schedule time for relaxation, creative endeavors, personal growth and fitness. Surround yourself with people who put a smile on your face. Call the shots, set the stage for a year filled with self-improvements that make you feel and look your best, and achieve a healthy lifestyle. Romance is on the rise. Your numbers are 9, 12, 21, 26, 33, 38, 42.

**ARIES** *(March 21-April 19):* Invest in your future. Supplement your qualifications, update your look and promote what you want to do next. Don't limit what you can do; follow through with your plans. A healthy attitude will prompt others to join your quest. ✪✪✪✪✪

**TAURUS** *(April 20-May 20):* Consider what others expect of you, and address your responsibilities head-on. Leave nothing to chance or up to others to complete. Keep your money and important papers and passwords tucked away someplace safe. Change what isn't working for you, then move forward. ✪✪✪

**GEMINI** *(May 21-June 20):* Participate in something that concerns you. You can make a difference if you speak up and offer concrete solutions. Don't trust anyone promising the impossible or delivering vague responses. Show your willingness to work hard, and you'll get the backing you need. ✪✪✪

**CANCER** *(June 21-July 22):* Put on a happy face, even if you find someone irritating. It's amazing what a positive attitude can do when you're faced with cranky people. Pitch in, keep busy and show compassion, and you'll make a difference and set an example. ✪✪✪

**LEO** *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Choose your associates wisely. Listen carefully and be resourceful. Follow through and get the facts. Take responsibility for your actions and words, and live up to your promises. Self-improvement projects will earn compliments. ✪✪✪✪✪

**VIRGO** *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Open your mind and learn. A change of attitude will give you a new take on an old situation or relationship. Pick up the pace and say what's on your mind. Clearing sensitive issues tactfully will ward off an untimely vendetta. ✪✪

**LIBRA** *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Open topics of conversation that need addressing. Show compassion, but don't let anyone take advantage of you. Keep your money and possessions tucked away someplace safe. Change things around at home to better suit your needs. Comfort and convenience will pay off. ✪✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Call the shots and do things your way. Don't waste time trying to convince others to follow your lead. If someone doesn't like your decisions, give them the freedom to take a different path. Avoid emotional spending. ✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Distance yourself from people who take you for granted. Put more time and effort into domestic responsibilities and personal growth. Make improvements to your surroundings or clear a space to relax or take on a creative pursuit. ✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Be secretive regarding finances, contracts or medical issues. Focus on changes that improve your lifestyle or drum up worthy connections at networking events. Take better care of your health, and avoid a run-in with a friend or lover. ✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* You'll attract unique people and opportunities, but before deciding to change your life, do your research. If you act on hype alone, disappointment will follow. Know what you are up against, and use your intelligence to outmaneuver anyone who opposes you. ✪✪✪✪

**PISCES** *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Be careful not to offend someone. Choose your words wisely and concentrate on doing what's right. Unique action will have greater validity than empty promises. Control your emotions, work on yourself and don't try to change others. ✪✪

*✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.*

# SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 5 | 8 | | | 2 | | 4 | |
| 4 | | 6 | | 3 | | | | 2 |
| 7 | 9 | | | | | | | |
| | | | 3 | 9 | | | | 1 |
| | 6 | | | | | | 9 | |
| 2 | | | | 8 | 6 | | | |
| | | | | | | | 3 | 8 |
| 9 | | | | 1 | | 7 | | 4 |
| | 3 | | 6 | | | 9 | 1 | |

Difficulty Level ★★ 5/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 8 |
| 8 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| 1 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 7 |
| 7 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 2 |
| 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 4 |
| 2 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| 5 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 9 |
| 9 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 3 |
| 3 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 5 |

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

**MEAT LOAF (1947-2022)** **Solution: 15 letters**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | E | G | N | I | R | D | A | E | D | S | G | N | O | S |
| S | E | D | U | T | I | T | T | A | D | A | B | A | O | R |
| T | H | G | I | L | S | H | O | W | A | I | T | U | O | E |
| A | A | D | N | A | M | A | H | A | I | R | L | T | T | H |
| G | S | N | M | I | T | Y | G | T | M | L | C | H | H | C |
| E | T | F | I | O | S | L | I | U | E | A | M | D | R | N |
| N | E | O | C | P | E | G | S | H | D | L | R | A | E | P |
| E | U | T | H | E | B | I | F | A | F | A | L | V | E | A |
| R | D | U | A | R | C | O | Y | S | O | E | A | E | I | I |
| U | E | O | E | A | T | Y | M | B | S | E | O | V | R | N |
| T | B | O | L | U | K | U | H | L | H | K | L | I | N | T |
| C | O | W | O | C | B | S | I | O | V | E | C | L | A | B |
| I | R | T | O | L | A | E | S | D | R | A | W | A | I | A |
| P | A | R | A | D | I | S | E | B | R | A | V | E | R | D |
| B | H | O | R | R | O | R | E | T | A | E | H | T | B | T |

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Actor, Aday, Ain't Bad, Albums, Alive, Amanda, Awards, Bad Attitude, Bat Out of Hell, Best, Braver, Brian, Cher, Dashboard, Dead Ringer, Deborah, Duets, Glee, Hair, Heaven, Horror, Leslie, Light, Marvin, Michael, Musical, Opera, Paradise, Pearl, Picture, Rocky, Show, Singer, Songs, Soul, Stage, Theater, Three, Tracks, Two Out Of, Wait, Wilma

**Yesterday's Answer: Bunny**

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 or 43,** order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

# Doncic leads Mavs over Suns 123-90 in Game 7 blowout

**PHOENIX** (AP)—It was no surprise when Luka Doncic looked ready for Game 7, calmly draining his first three shots to give the Dallas Mavericks an early lead.

The stunner came over the next two hours: The top-seeded Phoenix Suns had no response.

Doncic scored 35 points, Spencer Dinwiddie added 30 and the Mavericks blitzed the Suns with a 123-90 knockout Sunday night, advancing to the Western Conference finals for the first time since 2011.

"A lot of people said it would be a blowout," Mavs coach Jason Kidd said with a grin. "They were right."

Of course, it wasn't Dallas that was supposed to win on Sunday. The home team won the first six games of the series, but the Mavs broke through, dominating in a hostile environment from start to finish. Conversely, it was an embarrassing no-show for the playoff-tested Suns — who advanced to the NBA Finals last season with a very similar roster.

"We played all season to be in this situation," Suns guard Chris Paul said. "It didn't work out for us."

The fourth-seeded Mavericks travel to face Golden State in Game 1 on Wednesday.

"I can't get this smile off my face," Doncic said. "I'm just really happy. Honestly, I think we deserved this."

Doncic earned the Mavs an early lead, making his first three shots, including two 3-pointers. That helped Dallas push to a 27-17 advantage in the first quarter and a whopping 57-27 cushion at the halftime break.

Doncic and Dinwiddie, who came off the bench, combined to pour in 48 of the Mavericks' 57 points. Doncic's 27 points in the first half matched the Suns' team total.

Game 7 drama? Not in the desert.

"It's still kind of shocking," Dinwiddie said.

Simply put, the Suns looked overwhelmed by the pressure of a Game 7. They missed shots they usually make, made bad passes they usually don't make and looked nothing like the team that won an NBA-best 64 games during the regular season.

"That group has a lot of character and integrity and I know how bad they wanted it," Suns coach Monty Williams said. "We just could not execute tonight. Couldn't make a shot early, that messed with us a little bit and Dallas played their tails of from start to finish."

By halftime, many Suns fans were booing at the unsightly display.

The series might have been close but the individual games usually were not. Three of the first six games were decided by at least 20 points and none of the games came down to the final possession.

AP

Dallas Mavericks guard Luka Doncic (77) celebrates a basket against the Phoenix Suns during the first half of Game 7 of an NBA basketball Western Conference playoff semifinal, Sunday, May 15, 2022, in Phoenix.

Game 7 followed a similar pattern, except the team doing all the damage was the road team. The Mavs led this one by 46 points.

Doncic was fantastic, making shots from all over the floor and finishing 12 of 19 from the field, including 6 of 11 on 3s. He also got some help: Dinwiddie was stellar in the first half with 21 points on 7-of-10 shooting, including 4 of 5 from 3-point range.

They became the eighth pair of teammates to score 30 points in a Game 7, the first since Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant in 2002.

Meanwhile, Phoenix's All-Star backcourt of Paul and Devin Booker was never a factor. The 37-year-old Paul is a 12-time All-Star that has done just about everything possible in the game except win a championship.

After this setback, it's fair to wonder if there will be many more opportunities. Booker finished with 11 points and shot 3 of 14. Paul had 10 points and four assists. The Suns shot just 37.9% from the field.

"You could see some of the pressure was on them early," Kidd said. "They missed some shots they normally make."

Dallas beat the odds with the win: After the Celtics defeated the Bucks earlier Sunday, the home team was 110-33 (77%) in NBA Game 7s.

It's the second straight year the Suns have lost a playoff series after having a 2-0 lead. They won the first two games against the Bucks in the NBA Finals last season before losing four straight games.

## Celtics 109, Bucks 91

In Boston, In the fog of the Celtics' Game 5 loss to Milwaukee that dropped his team into a 3-2 series hole, Boston coach Ime Udoka made a prediction.

"It'll make it sweeter when we bounce back," he said.

Two wins later, the Celtics turned their coach's prophecy into reality.

Grant Williams scored a career-high 27 points and hit seven 3-pointers, Jayson Tatum added 23 and Boston set a Game 7 record with 22 3-pointers to eliminate the NBA champion Bucks 109-81 on Sunday in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

The Celtics will face top-seeded Miami beginning Tuesday in a rematch of the 2020 East finals. The Heat beat the Celtics in six games in that series at Walt Disney World.

Tatum said his team embraced the "backs against the wall" moments it faced in having to win the final two games after their late collapse in their previous home game.

"As much as it hurt to lose Game 5, I was looking forward to that challenge," Tatum said. "I believe in myself, I believe in this team. I expected to play the way I did and for us to respond the way we did."

The Celtics trailed early in Game 7 before outscoring the Bucks 61- 38 in the second half to cruise to the victory. Boston used a whopping 54-point advantage from behind the arc to improve to 25-9 in decisive seventh games.

The Bucks are now 3-9. They went 4 for 33 (12.1%) from the 3-point line. That's the second-worst 3-point percentage in a playoff game ever (minimum 30 attempts).

Williams was timid early, missing 5 of his first 7 3-point attempts. It was a pep talk he got from Jaylen Brown during a timeout after Williams passed on a open shot that changed his mindset.

"For me it was like, they're encouraging it, I might as well take advantage," Williams said. "Each one as time got on got more comfortable."

Williams finished 7 for 18 behind the arc. The Celtics were 22 for 55.

It helped silence another relentless night from Bucks star Giannis Antetokounmpo, who had 25 points, 20 rebounds and nine assists. But he was just 3 of 11 in the paint in the second half, including 1 for 6 the fourth quarter.

"Shots that I usually make wasn't going in. That's basketball. That's sports," Antetokounmpo said. "Sometimes you win. Sometimes you lose. There's a winner. There's a loser. You've just got to live with it."

Jrue Holiday added 21 points and eight assists. Brook Lopez finished with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

Boston started the second half on an 11-4 run to open a 59-47 lead.

It was 63-53 when Tatum went to the bench after being whistled for his fourth foul. But the Celtics rallied without him, outscoring the Bucks 16-11 the rest of the quarter to take a 79-64 lead to the fourth.

# Tiring Giannis, Bucks fall short in NBA title repeat bid

Giannis Antetokounmpo powered his way to the rim, trying to keep the Milwaukee Bucks' title defense alive. Again and again, the ball just wouldn't drop.

Layups, putbacks — shots that are usually automatic for the two-time MVP and reigning NBA champion — bounced fruitlessly away. And the Bucks kept dropping further behind.

"I'd rather miss a bunch of shots and keep playing, keep coming and keep being aggressive ... than go into passive mode," the Bucks star said after the Celtics won Game 7 of the Eastern Conference semifinals 109-81 on Sunday to end Milwaukee's hopes of back-to-back titles.

"I can live with that. I can live with giving everything for the game," Antetokounmpo said. "Shots that I usually make weren't going in. But that's basketball. That's sports. ... You've just got to live with it."

One year after leading Milwaukee to the NBA title and being voted finals MVP, Antetokounmpo and the Bucks wilted in the final quarter of their final game. The Greek Freak scored 25 points with 20 rebounds and nine assists in all, but he shot 10 for 26 in the game, missing six of seven shots in the fourth quarter -- four of them from inside of 6 feet.

Asked if his legs were heavy after playing a season-high 43 minutes, 9 seconds — including all of the second half until the game was out of reach — Antetokounmpo said: "Legs heavy. Body heavy. Mind heavy. Everything was heavy."

"I was just trying to be aggressive," he added. "At the end of the day, it's Game 7 and I'm not going to hold the ball and not look at the rim."

Antetokounmpo still had a series for the record books, recording a triple-double in Game 1 and missing one in the finale by a single assist. He scored 40 or more points three times, and had 20 rebounds twice.

Over the seven games, he averaged 29.6 points, 14.7 rebounds and 7.1 assists. He is the first player in NBA history to record 200 points, 100 rebounds and 50 assists in a playoff series.

"The way Giannis evolved throughout this series, the way Giannis played against a very good defensive team, against a lot of good individual defenders, was like another one of those growth moments, growth opportunities," Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said.

"I thought he was phenomenal. His scoring, his attacking, his playmaking, his unselfishness," he said. "I was beyond impressed."

After winning his first NBA title — and the Bucks' first since Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (then still Lew Alcindor) led them to the championship in 1971 — Antetokounmpo averaged 29.9 points, 11.6 rebounds and 5.8 assists this season. He was second in scoring, sixth in rebounds and third in the MVP voting while leading Milwaukee to 51 wins and a No. 3 seed in the Eastern Conference.

The defending champions eliminated the Bulls in five games and opened a 3-2 lead in the second round. But the Celtics ran away with Game 6 in Milwaukee, and did it again in the clincher.

Without No. 2 scorer Khris Middleton, who missed the series with sprained left knee ligaments, Budenholzer relied heavily on his star. Antetokounmpo played 21 of 24 minutes in the first half, all of the third quarter and only came out in the fourth for garbage time.

It was his fourth straight game playing more than 40 minutes.

"We definitely played those guys out for as long and as much as we could. Maybe that had some small impact on it," Budenholzer said. "Some nights the ball, you just can't get it in the basket. ... It would have been great if we'd make a few more, whether it's layups or open 3's and things like that, or shots that were in and out, but that's the sport." ***(AP)***

# No-hit wonder: Pirates beat Reds 1-0 without a hit

PITTSBURGH (AP) — In what's quickly become a lost season for the Cincinnati Reds, this really was the ultimate misery.

Prized rookie Hunter Greene and reliever Art Warren combined to allow zero hits in a complete game, but it didn't count as a no-hitter — or even a win.

Instead, the Pittsburgh Pirates eked out a run in the bottom of the eighth inning on three walks and a groundout for a 1-0 victory Sunday.

"It would have been great to have a different result, but it is what it is," Greene said.

Ke'Bryan Hayes' RBI grounder helped the Pirates become the sixth team in big league history since 1901 to win despite not getting any hits. It last happened in 2008 when Jered Weaver and Jose Arredondo of the Angels lost while holding the Dodgers hitless.

AP

Cincinnati Reds starting pitcher Hunter Greene (21) hands the ball to manager David Bell as he leaves the mound during the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Pittsburgh Pirates in Pittsburgh, Sunday, May 15, 2022.

### Cardinals 15, Giants 6

In St. Louis, Adam Wainwright and Yadier Molina set a major league record for wins by a starting battery as St. Louis routed San Francisco in a game that ended with veteran slugger Albert Pujols on the mound.

Molina homered and drove in four runs, Wainwright pitched six effective innings and St. Louis roughed up Carlos Rodón (4-2) early. Paul Goldschmidt and Nolan Arenado each added a two-run homer for the Cardinals, who took two of three in the series.

Pujols, the Cardinals' designated hitter, entered to pitch for the first time in his 22-year career in the ninth inning. He gave up a three-run homer to Luis Gonzalez and a solo shot to Joey Bart but managed to get the final three outs with plenty of margin to spare.

The 42-year-old Pujols became the oldest player to make his big league pitching debut since Lena Blackburne brought himself in at age 42 in his final game as a player/manager for the 1929 Chicago White Sox.

Wainwright (4-3) and Molina broke the major league mark with their 203rd victory as a starting battery. They passed Warren Spahn and Del Crandall, who amassed 202 wins for the Boston and Milwaukee Braves from 1949-63.

### Mariners 8, Mets 7

In New York, prized rookie Julio Rodríguez hit a tying homer as part of a four-hit game, Cal Raleigh added a go-ahead, two-run drive and reliever Diego Castillo struck out Pete Alonso with the bases loaded in the bottom of the ninth to lift Seattle over New York.

New York trailed 4-1, then burst ahead in the fourth against Cy Young Award winner Robbie Ray (4-3) when J.D. Davis and Brandon Nimmo became the first pair of Mets in the team's 61-season history to hit two-run triples in the same inning.

The homers from Rodríguez off Chasen Shreve (1-1) and Raleigh helped Seattle climb back ahead, but the Mets rallied again in the ninth. Eduardo Escobar hit the Mets' third triple with one out, Jeff McNeil had an RBI single and Brandon Nimmo a run-scoring double. With runners on second and third, Castillo relieved and struck out Starling Marte.

### Yankees 5, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Nestor Cortes pitched a career-high eight innings and New York took advantage of Michael Kopech's one wild stretch to beat Chicago.

The Yankees managed just two hits: a second-inning single for Isiah Kiner-Falefa and a two-run homer by Joey Gallo in the ninth.

Cortes (2-1), who carried a no-hitter into the eighth in his previous outing against Texas, allowed three hits, struck out seven and walked none.

Clay Holmes finished the four-hitter for New York's 18th win in 21 games.

Kopech (0-1) pitched six innings of one-hit ball for Chicago.

### Angels 5, Athletics 1

In Oakland, Calif., Shohei Ohtani homered for the second consecutive game, leading Los Angeles over Oakland.

A day after becoming the third Japanese-born player to reach 100 homers in the major leagues, Ohtani belted No. 101. His eighth homer this season was a 425-foot drive deep into the

right-field stands off a first-inning sinker from Frankie Montas. Mike Trout, who singled ahead of Ohtani, scored.

Patrick Sandoval (2-1) pitched into the sixth inning and got back on track after a pair of rocky outings to help the Angels (24-13) move 11 games above .500 for the first time since July 28, 2015. Sandoval (2-1) allowed one run and four hits, lowering his ERA to 1.91 and overcoming a season-high four walks.

Jimmy Herget retired eight batters to complete the five-hitter and earn his first career save.

Montas (2-4) had a season-high 12 strikeouts in six innings and allowed four hits and two runs.

### Rangers 7, Red Sox 1

In Arlington, Texas, Adolis García and Kole Calhoun each hit two home runs, Martin Perez pitched six strong innings and Texas beat Boston.

Texas trailed 1-0 and didn't have a hit until Calhoun led off the bottom of the fifth with an opposite-field homer into the visitors' bullpen in left-center.

García broke the 1-1 tie with two out and two men on base in the sixth. He hit an 0-1 pitch from Boston's Ryan Brasier (0-2) into the right-center field bullpen. He homered again in the eighth to tie his career high with five RBIs.

Perez (2-2) allowed five hits and struck out seven.

### Tigers 5, Orioles 1

In Detroit, Miguel Cabrera blasted his 505th career home run, Tarik Skubal equaled his career high with 11 strikeouts, and Detroit beat Baltimore for its first series sweep this season.

Cabrera had two hits, scored two runs and knocked in two more for the Tigers. Harold Castro added three hits, a run scored and two RBIs.

Skubal (3-2) lasted six innings, limiting Baltimore to three hits and two walks.

Trey Mancini's homer off Rony Garcia in the ninth prevented the Orioles from being shut out in back-to-back games. Baltimore starter Tyler Wells (1-3) allowed three runs on eight hits in four-plus innings.

### Rays 3, Blue Jays 0

In St. Petersburg, Fla., third baseman Matt Chapman's throwing error allowed Tampa Bay to break a scoreless tie in the sixth inning and beat Toronto.

Jeffrey Springs combined with four relievers on a five-hitter for the Rays, who took two of three in the series. Matt Wisler (2-1) took over with two outs in the fifth and worked 1 1/3 scoreless innings, and Andrew Kittredge pitched the ninth for his fifth save in seven attempts.

Chapman threw wildly to second base after fielding a chopper, allowing Brandon Lowe to score. The Rays added two more runs in the sixth against Alex Manoah (4-1).

### Brewers 7, Marlins 3

In Miami, Kolten Wong homered, singled and had three walks to help Milwaukee beat Miami.

Jace Peterson and Rowdy Tellez also homered to back Brandon Woodruff, who limited Miami to three runs and five hits in his five-inning outing. Woodruff (4-2) walked two and struck out six.

Aaron Ashby relieved Woodruff and pitched four hitless innings while striking out eight for his first save.

Milwaukee chased Miami starter Elieser Hernández (2-3) during a four-run fifth. Peterson and Wong hit consecutive solo homers off Hernández while Tellez and Omar Narváez had RBI singles against reliever Louis Head.

### Astros 8, Nationals 0

In Washington, Yuli Gurriel went 3 for 4 with a homer, Justin Verlander pitched five scoreless innings and Houston beat Washington.

Jose Altuve, Martin Maldonado and Chas McCormick also homered for the Astros. Gurriel finished the series 8-for-12 with two homers and four RBIs.

After taking a no-hitter into the eighth inning in his last start, Verlander (5-1) didn't allow a hit Sunday until surrendering back-to-back singles with one out in the fifth. He struck out five and walked three in his in his seventh start since returning from Tommy John surgery.

Nationals starter Patrick Corbin (0-6) was solid early before allowing home runs in the fifth, sixth and seventh innings. He allowed five runs on six hits over six-plus innings. Washington has lost each of Corbin's eight starts.

### Twins 3, Guardians 1

In Minneapolis, Joe Ryan allowed one run over six innings and was backed by solo homers from Byron Buxton and Gio Urshela as Minnesota beat Cleveland.

Ryan (4-2) threw a career-high 103 pitches and struck out five, with his only blemish a fourth inning changeup that José Ramírez hit over the right field fence for his eighth home run of the season.

Buxton hit his 11th home run of the season in the fifth inning.

Guardians starter Triston McKenzie (2-3) allowed three runs on three hits and two walks. He struck out four in seven innings.

### Padres 7, Braves 3

In Atlanta, Ha-Seong Kim had a run-scoring double to give San Diego the lead in a four-run 11th inning.

Kim's double to left field off Jackson Stephens (0-1) drove in Jake Cronenworth, who opened the inning as the automatic runner on second.

Kim moved to third on a throwing error by shortstop Dansby Swanson and scored on Jurickson Profar's grounder to second base, beating Ozzie Albies' throw to the plate. The Braves committed three errors in the game. Wil Myers added a two-run single.

Nabil Crismatt (2-0) had four strikeouts in two scoreless innings.

### Dodgers 5, Phillies 4

In Los Angeles, Gavin Lux atoned for an early fielding mistake with a walk-off, two-run double in the ninth inning, and Los Angeles avoided a four-game series sweep.

Cody Bellinger got a two-out triple off Corey Knebel (0-3) and Chris Taylor walked before Lux drove them both home. Lux made a two-out error on a routine grounder in the second inning, allowing the Phillies to score four unearned runs.

Aaron Nola left with a 4-2 lead after throwing seven innings of four-hit ball, but Philadelphia's latest bullpen misadventure doomed its four-game winning streak.

Mookie Betts had a homer and an RBI double for the Dodgers, who avoided their first five-game skid since April 2019. Shane Greene (1-0) pitched two scoreless relief innings in his season debut for Los Angeles.

### Royals 8, Rockies 7

In Denver, Salvador Perez hit a go-ahead, two-run single in the ninth inning and Kansas City recovered from blowing a six-run lead to beat Colorado.

Bobby Witt Jr., Whit Merrifield and Emmanuel Rivera homered for the Royals, who took two of three from Colorado.

Andrew Benintendi drew a leadoff walk from Rockies closer Daniel Bard (1-1) in the ninth and Ryan O'Hearn singled. A wild pitch and a one-out walk to Michael A. Taylor loaded the bases for Perez, who laced a single to left field.

Josh Staumont (1-0) pitched the eighth inning and Scott Barlow got three outs for his fourth save.

### Cubs 3, Diamondbacks 2

In Phoenix, Frank Schwindel hit a tiebreaking single in the ninth inning and Chicago beat Arizona.

Patrick Wisdom and Rafael Ortega also homered for the Cubs, who have won four of six after a 3-14 stretch.

Wisdom doubled to deep center field to lead off the ninth against Ian Kennedy (2-2) and Schwindel reached out and hit a soft line drive over first base.

Scott Effross (1-1) gave up a single to open the ninth. Rowan Wick allowed a single to the first batter he faced before getting his fourth save in as many chances on a foul-out and double-play grounder.

# Final Four complete in Hoops and Vibes

It all comes down to the Final Four in the Precinct 5 Hoops and Vibes Basketball Tournament, as Young Dooms, Utu bangers, K2 Ballers, and T8 Warriors compete for the championship this Saturday, May 21, under the lights at the Kagman Community Center hardcourt.

The co-ed youth basketball tournament started with eight teams and featured boys and girls between 14 and 18 years old in full-court 5-v-5 action. The K2 Ballers (3-0) survived the tournament unscathed, while the Young Dooms (2-1), Utu Bangers (2-1) and T8 Warriors (2-1) fell just once apiece.

The K2 Ballers have been powered by Garret Mariano and Kaipo Dikito who averaged 16 points per game and 12.6 points per game, respectively. Dikito's hot hand accounted for a tournament-leading eight buckets from beyond the arc, just one ahead of Steven King (Irish Spring) and Kavid Blasa (Utu Bangers), with seven apiece.

The final games get underway this Saturday when the Young Dooms battle the Utu Bangers at 5:30pm, followed by the K2 Ballers and T8 Warrior at 6:30pm. The winners advance to the championship at 8:30pm, while the vanquished play for third place at 7:30pm. The awards presentation will follow the championship match.

Tournament organizers want to thank Joeten Enterprises, PHI pharmacy, McDonald's of Guam and Saipan, and Mariana's Fast Food, Inc. for their generous donations of gift certificates and other in-kind items for the winning teaams.

For more information about the Hoops and Vibes Basketball Tournament, to volunteer as a referee, or to register as a vendor, call Rep. Leila Staffler's office at (670) 664-8892, via email at rep.staffler@gmail.com or visit bit.ly/P5Hoops. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Team Irish Spring's Emanuel Féria, Elijah Garcia, and Gino Asauo stand behind their coach, Mike Mercado, at the Precinct 5 Hoops and Vibes Basketball Tournament in Kagman.

## SALTY

*From Page 20*

Third place was J3RM with their captain Manuel Mogar and deckhands Joeed and Lorenz Quemado after they landed an 18.1-pounder. They went home with $1,000.

Fourth and fifth places went to Guguan and Sesa after their crew caught mahi mahi that weighed 17.8 lbs and 12.1 lbs, respectively. Guguan is captained by Keith Torres, while Sesa has Steve Reyes as skipper. They pocketed gift certificates worth $300 and $100 for finishing in the Top 5.

On the $1,800 side bet, Salty Bandits 3 cleaned out the table after reeling in a 30.1-lb wahoo.

Dancoe later said that the crew of Salty Bandits 3 was simply reaping the good karma they sowed during the last Saipan International Fishing Tournament.

"They're newcomers on the scene and during the Saipan international derby they caught this marlin and they weighed it then cut it up and gave it to everyone for free to enjoy."

Salty Bandits 3 is captained by Guy Macaranas with Angelo Tudela, Keith Fernandez, and Angie Ayuyu as anglers.

The organizing Saipan Fishermen Association congratulated all the winners and thanked all who participated in last weekend's derby.

"Thank you to all participants, volunteers, team SFA, our major sponsor Budwiesr and Marpac. Thank you also to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Smiling Cove Marina staff and management, DPS Boating Safety, American Memorial Park, Micronesia Islands Nature alliance, and Rep. Joseph " Lee Pan" Guererro (R-Saipan). Thank you all for being part of another successful mahi tournament. Fish on!" said SFA president Tony Scragg.

The 18th Annual Mahi-Mahi Fishing Derby attracted a total of 44 boats. Next up for the SFA is the 38th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament set from July 16 to 17, 2022

MARK RABAGO

Salty Bandits 3 crewman Keith Fernandez center, receives the side bet winnings of $1,800 after reeling in the heaviest wahoo in 18th Annual Mahi-Mahi Fishing Derby last Saturday. He is joined in the photo by Saipan Fishermen Association officials.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### MLB STANDINGS

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**

**East Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New York | 25 | 9 | .735 | _ |
| Tampa Bay | 21 | 14 | .600 | 4½ |
| Toronto | 18 | 17 | .514 | 7½ |
| Baltimore | 14 | 21 | .400 | 11½ |
| Boston | 13 | 21 | .382 | 12 |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Minnesota | 20 | 15 | .571 | _ |
| Chicago | 16 | 17 | .485 | 3 |
| Cleveland | 16 | 17 | .485 | 3 |
| Kansas City | 12 | 20 | .375 | 6½ |
| Detroit | 12 | 23 | .343 | 8 |

**West Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Houston | 23 | 12 | .657 | _ |
| Los Angeles | 24 | 13 | .649 | _ |
| Seattle | 16 | 19 | .457 | 7 |
| Texas | 14 | 19 | .424 | 8 |
| Oakland | 15 | 22 | .405 | 9 |

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

**East Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New York | 23 | 13 | .639 | _ |
| Philadelphia | 17 | 18 | .486 | 5½ |
| Atlanta | 16 | 19 | .457 | 6½ |
| Miami | 15 | 19 | .441 | 7 |
| Washington | 12 | 24 | .333 | 11 |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Milwaukee | 22 | 13 | .629 | _ |
| St. Louis | 19 | 15 | .559 | 2½ |
| Pittsburgh | 15 | 19 | .441 | 6½ |
| Chicago | 13 | 20 | .394 | 8 |
| Cincinnati | 9 | 26 | .257 | 13 |

**West Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Los Angeles | 21 | 12 | .636 | _ |
| San Diego | 22 | 13 | .629 | _ |
| San Francisco | 20 | 14 | .588 | 1½ |
| Arizona | 18 | 17 | .514 | 4 |
| Colorado | 17 | 17 | .500 | 4½ |

### NBA PLAYOFF LEADERS

**Scoring**

| | G | FG | FT | PTS | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Antetokounmpo, MIL | 12 | 140 | 91 | 380 | 31.7 |
| Doncic, DAL | 10 | 111 | 60 | 315 | 31.5 |
| Jokic, DEN | 5 | 61 | 28 | 155 | 31.0 |
| Butler, MIA | 10 | 104 | 63 | 287 | 28.7 |
| Tatum, BOS | 11 | 103 | 66 | 311 | 28.3 |
| Morant, MEM | 9 | 81 | 65 | 244 | 27.1 |
| Ingram, NO | 6 | 56 | 39 | 162 | 27.0 |
| Curry, GS | 11 | 96 | 62 | 296 | 26.9 |
| Durant, BKN | 4 | 32 | 34 | 105 | 26.3 |
| Mitchell, UTA | 6 | 53 | 37 | 153 | 25.5 |
| Edwards, MIN | 6 | 50 | 28 | 151 | 25.2 |
| Embiid, PHI | 10 | 78 | 73 | 236 | 23.6 |
| Booker, PHO | 10 | 79 | 47 | 233 | 23.3 |
| Brunson, DAL | 13 | 113 | 55 | 298 | 22.9 |
| Siakam, TOR | 6 | 51 | 31 | 137 | 22.8 |
| McCollum, NO | 6 | 49 | 18 | 133 | 22.2 |
| Brown, BOS | 11 | 88 | 43 | 244 | 22.2 |
| Towns, MIN | 6 | 39 | 43 | 131 | 21.8 |
| Irving, BKN | 4 | 28 | 21 | 85 | 21.3 |
| Hunter, ATL | 5 | 39 | 16 | 106 | 21.2 |

**FG Percentage**

| | FG | FGA | PCT |
|---|---|---|---|
| Claxton, BKN | 19 | 24 | .792 |
| Cousins, DEN | 19 | 29 | .655 |
| Ayton, PHO | 105 | 164 | .640 |
| Boucher, TOR | 26 | 42 | .619 |
| Clarke, MEM | 56 | 91 | .615 |
| Adebayo, MIA | 57 | 96 | .594 |
| Jokic, DEN | 61 | 106 | .575 |
| Brown, BKN | 21 | 37 | .568 |
| Nance, NO | 22 | 39 | .564 |
| Curry, BKN | 22 | 39 | .564 |

**Rebounds**

| | G | OFF | DEF | TOT | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Valanciunas, NO | 6 | 33 | 53 | 86 | 14.3 |
| Antetokounmpo, MIL | 12 | 26 | 144 | 170 | 14.2 |
| Jokic, DEN | 5 | 17 | 49 | 66 | 13.2 |
| Gobert, UTA | 6 | 21 | 58 | 79 | 13.2 |
| Vucevic, CHI | 5 | 14 | 48 | 62 | 12.4 |
| Towns, MIN | 6 | 11 | 54 | 65 | 10.8 |
| Embiid, PHI | 10 | 21 | 86 | 107 | 10.7 |
| Doncic, DAL | 10 | 9 | 92 | 101 | 10.1 |
| Portis, MIL | 12 | 25 | 95 | 120 | 10.0 |
| Horford, BOS | 11 | 17 | 86 | 103 | 9.4 |

**Assists**

| | G | AST | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Morant, MEM | 9 | 88 | 9.8 |
| Harden, PHI | 12 | 103 | 8.6 |
| Paul, PHO | 13 | 108 | 8.3 |
| Antetokounmpo, MIL | 12 | 81 | 6.8 |
| Russell, MIN | 6 | 40 | 6.7 |
| Green, GS | 11 | 73 | 6.6 |
| Doncic, DAL | 10 | 66 | 6.6 |
| Holiday, MIL | 12 | 78 | 6.5 |
| Durant, BKN | 4 | 25 | 6.3 |
| Ingram, NO | 6 | 37 | 6.2 |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## TINIAN

*From Page 20*

Association president Jose Kiyoshi congratulated Reyes and company for their election to TVA.

"If you see this young leaders please congratulate them on their new role in our sports community and thank you to those outgoing officers"

He said as the president of TASA he wants them to be involved in the island's sports community activities.

"Because we are getting old and it's time for them to take charge in our sports community," said Kiyoshi.

As for the new officers' plan for their upcoming terms, Reyes said one is to host a summer volleyball league for elementary, middle, and high school students as well for adults.

Another is to have a three-day volleyball training clinic for the youth.

TVA's new set of officers also want to hold friendly volleyball games every weekend.

"We will also ask classes from our schools to have a snack stand at the games," said Reyes.

"These are our plans so far, but we are going to host a meeting with our officers real soon to elaborate more on it," she added.

## DELEON

*From Page 20*

per carded the day's best gross of 78 (39-39), which was whittled down to a net 72.

Rene Batallones actually tied Benavente with his net 72. The businessman lost, however, via a scorecard tie-break. The 16-handicapper had a gross of 88 following a 46-42 split.

With his win in the April tourney, Deleon Guerrero now joins Edward C. Sablan (January), Frances M. Sablan (February), and Nick Sablan (March) in the 2022 SGA Ace of the Month Tournament at season's end.

In the closest to the pin competition, Mario Fajardo took the plums in holes No. 3 and 12, while Benavente was without peer in hole No. 7. Former national golfer Nick Sablan won hole No. 14.

Benavente was a four-time winner last April 24 when he also won the longest drives in holes No. 6 and 18.

Doncic leads Mavs over Suns 123-90 in Game 7 blowout

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Sports

Final Four complete in Hoops and Vibes

PAGE 19

# Salty Bandits 2 reels in mightiest mahi

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The sweet taste of victory was savored by the crew of Salty Bandits 2 after they reeled in the mightiest mahi in the 18th Annual Mahi-Mahi Fishing Derby last Saturday.

Captain Austin Benavente and anglers Ken Salas and Joey Tudela caught a 21.1-lb fish to win the $2,000 first place purse and a year's worth of bragging rights.

Interviewed by emcee Curtis Dancoe during the awards ceremony after the derby, Benavente said they caught their prized catch while crossing Tinian and it took five minutes to land the fish.

Pressed what kind of lure they used to catch the winning mahi, Benavente just said the color of the skirt was milky white.

Salty Bandits 2 took to the seas for the 18th Annual Mahi-Mahi Fishing Derby aboard a 17-foot Boston Whaler.

Sweet Candy skippered by George Moses came in second with their 19.2-lb mahi. Moses was joined in his trimaran by Mike Kukun, Peter Moses, Brien Moses, and Nick Muna. They earned $1,500 for all their trouble.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Salty Bandits 2 captain Austin Benavente, right, and a crew member poses with the winning mahi mahi during 18th Annual Mahi-Mahi Fishing Derby last Saturday.

## Deleon Guerrero is SGA May winner

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Larry Deleon Guerrero, right, won the Saipan Golfers Association April Ace of the Month last April 24 at the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort. He's seen here with, from left, Joe Sablan, Frank Castro, and Das Krishnan.

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Saipan Golfers Association hailed Larry Deleon Guerrero as the winner of the April Ace of the Month Tournament.

The former Saipan lawmaker shot a net 70 during the club's April competition held last April 24 at the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort.

The 21-handicapper Deleon Guerrero beat a field of 12 after a gross of 91 following a 47 in the front nine and a 44 in the back.

Alex Tudela finished a shot behind Deleon Guerrero with his net 71 built around a gross of 81. The 10-handicapper had a 40 in the first nine holes before retiring to the clubhouse with a 41 in the last nine.

Third place for the April tourney went to Ton Benavente after the 6-handicap-

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## Tinian volleyball group elects new officers

By MARK RABAGO
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The Tinian Volleyball Association has a new set of officers following elections last week.

Elected as chairwoman is Isa Reyes, while the vice chair is Anisa Dela Cruz. The rest of the officers are treasurer Joseph Santos Jr., secretary Clarize Rodriguez, and public relations officer Jasmine Furton.

All five new officers of TVA are students from Tinian Junior/Senior High School between the ages of 16 and 17 years old.

Tinian Athletic Sports

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tinian Volleyball Association's new officers, from left, public relations officer Jasmine Furton, chair Isa Reyes, treasurer Joseph Santos Jr., vice chair Anisa Dela Cruz, and secretary Clarize Rodriguez.